

# Dutchess County Executive's Annual Report for 2022



Submitted by  
**William F.X. O'Neil**  
Dutchess County Executive



## COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

William F.X. O'Neil  
*County Executive*

### MEMORANDUM

TO: A. Gregg Pulver, Chairman & Members of the County Legislature

FROM: William F.X. O'Neil, County Executive

DATE: February 1, 2023

SUBJECT: **Dutchess County Executive's Annual Report for 2022**

Pursuant to the Dutchess County Charter, filed herewith is the County Executive's written report of the finances of the County and the activities of the Executive Branch of County Government for the year 2022.

This administration has appreciated the beneficial partnership it has enjoyed with the Dutchess County Legislature for more than a decade, a collaboration that has provided exemplary service for the residents who call this county home. I'm proud to submit to you the activities of the Executive Branch for the past year, highlighting the diverse work completed by our departments in 2022. Dutchess County is blessed to have such an active, eager, and dynamic team of department heads in place to deliver the high-quality programs and services on which those in our community rely. These leaders, and the more than 1,800 dedicated men and women they oversee, are the essence that keep this County government vibrant and engaged with the residents it serves. In the following pages, you'll glean just a fraction of the remarkable work each department, division, and office carries out – every day, year-round – to the benefit of their Dutchess County neighbors. I know you share the same pride in this team that I do, and I encourage you to share that confidence and satisfaction with the residents you each represent.

Bolstered by the successes detailed in this report, we will look toward the future of Dutchess County when I host the annual State of the County Address on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. inside the Culinary Institute of America's Marriott Pavilion. I look forward to your attendance as we continue our successful partnership in the coming year.

Thank you.

## County Finances

2022 saw gasoline prices soar, inflation at the highest level in 40 years, and a housing market with double digit growth. Dutchess County's steadfast management, conservative budgeting and focus on economic development, keeps the County well positioned for challenges that may be faced in 2023 and beyond due to a rapidly changing economy and the possibility of a recession. Dutchess County's 2021 Annual Update Document filed in April of 2022 indicated that despite the pandemic, Dutchess County remained in a strong financial position, with general unassigned fund balance at \$119.5 million. With a bond rating of AA+, the highest County rating of S&P rated NY counties, Dutchess was well positioned in 2022 as \$119.5 million is beyond the \$43-86 million the County strives to set aside.

The County's fund balance policy states: The County will strive to maintain an undesignated general fund balance of 1-2 months of general fund operating expenditures in the general fund balance as a means of maintaining financial stability. To the extent general fund balance exceeds 2 months of operating expenditures, the County will use general fund balance to pay down or avoid indebtedness and/or provide property tax relief through offsetting current year operating expenses.

In line with this policy, at the end of 2021 and throughout 2022, the Dutchess County administration together with the Legislature approved several one-time capital projects using fund balance instead of bonding to avoid indebtedness. They also approved the early payoff of debt at the end of 2021 and again in the first quarter of 2022- totaling \$12.5 million. The 2022 and 2023 adopted budgets also lowered the property tax levy and rate offering property tax relief in-line with the policy reducing the levy for the eighth consecutive year. The projects funded with fund balance to avoid indebtedness totaled almost \$35 million and include the following projects:

Emergency Services and Law Enforcement Investment:

- Emergency Response Mobile Command Unit
- Fire Investigation Unit
- Body Worn Cameras for local law enforcement agencies
- Emergency Response 2-way radio system

Youth and Community Investment:

- Camp Nooteming property acquisition
- Northside Line Urban Trail
- Improvements and maintenance on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail and the William R. Steinhaus Dutchess Rail Trail
- ADA Accessibility Improvements to roadways
- Affordable Housing Trust Fund to Secure Affordable Units (ARP when expensed)

- Behavioral Health Center of Excellence- Additional Mental Health beds
- Board of Elections- On-Demand Printers for Ballot printing
- County Facility Improvements

In 2022, sales tax is projected to come in at about \$248.8 million, roughly \$8.5 million higher than the 2022 Adopted County Budget. This, together with projected overall savings in other departments throughout the County is projected to replenish some of the fund balance used to avoid indebtedness and will leave the 2022 fund balance at 1-2 months of overall expense which is the County's goal.

Sales tax provides 45% of the revenue used to fund programs and services the County provides. The 2023 projected sales tax includes the continuation of the exemption on clothing and footwear under \$110 and a growth rate of 1% compared to the projected 2022. The 2023 budget also includes an appropriation necessary to share the sales tax with municipalities according to the new sales tax agreement with the City of Poughkeepsie and the City of Beacon. This economically sensitive revenue stream must be monitored closely, and spending adjustments may be necessary in the new year if inflation continues, a recession ensues, and sales tax realization is lower than expected.

The Federal American Rescue Plan Funds totaling \$57 million have been received by the County and will be realized as the money is spent. The County is continuing to spend the funds on the following community investment priorities and over \$19 million has been spent so far on the below focus areas:

- Investing in our Youth
- Investing in our County Parks
- Investing in our Infrastructure / Building Jobs
- Community Partnerships
- Rebuilding County Government

Dutchess County Government is in a strong financial position and remains committed to controlling costs wherever possible, limiting the tax burden, and providing programs and services to help residents and improve the quality of life for those who call Dutchess home.

The following are highlights, by department, of the activities of the Executive Branch of Dutchess County Government, for 2022:

## **Office for the Aging**

- As COVID-19 restrictions began to ease and, in an effort to fight the blight of isolation and loneliness many older adults felt during the pandemic, OFA's created a calendar of events that allowed clients to re-socialize.
- Took part in or organized 27 group activities/events, including, but not limited to: The Senior Prom, summer picnics, two "Echoes of Sinatra" concerts (2), Pancakes in the Park, Thriving in Rhinebeck, the Golden Gathering, and the Dutchess County Caregiver Conference.
- Hosted 12 in-person senior picnics throughout the county with 3,750 attendees.
- Co-sponsored the Golden Gathering as a drive-through event, where over 1,000 seniors received information about resources and services available to them; over 475 seniors also received their annual flu shot at the event.
- Met with 4,896 walk-in clients at main office on Delafield Street in Poughkeepsie.
- Received 39,707 calls received from older adults, caregivers, and health care professionals, a 4% increase over 2021.
- NY Connects Unit had 7,354 intakes, an increase of more than 8% over the previous year, offering information concerning homecare, transportation, housing, and issues related to health insurance; increase due to new residents to Dutchess County, others who have never called before, caregivers and professionals. NY Connects Unit also experienced an increase in the time spent on each call, as the older adult population and those of all ages needing long-term services and supports, increased in Dutchess County.
- Provided 24,869 units of service (contacts) for information and assistance to over 2,200 clients; these include calls, emails, face-to-face interactions, etc. and may involve referrals to OFA from other agencies and organizations.
- Distributed 26,599 pieces of Nutritional Education material to 1,600 seniors. These monthly newsletters, written by the OFA Registered Dietician and focusing on nutrition and various tips for healthy eating, are distributed to Home Delivered Meal (HDM) and congregate clients.
- Served over 143,378 hot, home delivered meals to 630 clients.

- Distributed over 860 Farmers' Market Coupon books to low-income seniors.
- The attendance at each of OFA's Friendship Centers now exceeds pre-pandemic levels, as evidenced by 31,638 meals served to 432 attendees during 2022.
- Case Managers provided 6,722 hours of case management to clients and their caregivers and arranged 16,850 hours of home care to non-Medicaid clients.
- Authorized over 1,777 hours of Consumer Direct Home Care.
- Authorized over 6,650 hours of Social Adult daycare, nearly twice as many as the previous year, with 1,440 hours for new clients and existing clients receiving additional hours.
- Authorized Personal Emergency Response System units to 285 non-Medicaid clients.
- Provided 90 Alzheimer caregiver consultations, including follow-up and ongoing support.
- Staff made 1,339 Nursing visits to community-based, long-term care clients for homecare assessments and reauthorizations, aide orientations, aide supervision, and PRI screens. Staff provided over 4,155 hours of Case Management and spent 143 hours at vaccine clinics.
- During Medicare open enrollment period, counselors met with 652 clients to discuss Medicare enrollment, explaining benefits, comparing available plans.
- Received and processed 1,125 applications through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), a 48% increase over 2021. This includes 185 emergency HEAP applications, 7 Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement applications, 28 Clean and Tune applications, and 70 Cooling Assistance Program applications.
- Provided assistance to 639 older adults with benefit program applications and eligibility (i.e., Medicare, Medicaid, EPIC, SNAP, MSP), a 11% increase over 2021.
- Held 22 "Medicare 101" classes in various locations throughout the County during the open enrollment period, including two classes in Spanish.
- Provided 740 hours of legal services to 72 clients.
- Continued prescription drug collection by Traffic Safety/STOP DWI and the Sheriff's Office at all OFA summer senior picnic events, resulting in 283 pounds of unwanted/unused medication collected. Since initiative was launched in 2014, over a ton of unwanted/unused medication has been collected and destroyed.

- Distributed over 700 Deterra in-home drug disposal packets, an environmentally sound drug disposal system that permanently deactivates pills, liquids, and cream, as part of a pilot program, which will be continued in 2023.
- Provided 20,614 units (one-way trips) of transportation for medical appointments, shopping, and senior center activities – nearly twice as many as the previous year, as Senior Friendship Centers were all open full-time for all of 2022, following closures in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.
- 285 volunteers served in various capacities for department programs and services including insurance counseling, picnic assistance, home delivered meals, senior centers, and office assistance.
- Expanded health promotion offerings to include a virtual Stay Active & Independent for Life (SAIL) class, introduced “Bingocize” and Tai Chi II classes, and continued to offer “Matter of Balance”, Tai Chi I, and senior exercise programs.

## **Behavioral & Community Health**

### *General Department Highlights:*

- Department of Behavioral & Community Health (DBCH) continued intentional activities to promote integration of behavioral and community health including:
  - Developed and hosted the first annual Dutchess County Health Fair, bringing together multiple county departments and community organizations to provide residents with valuable health information. 75 health related exhibitors participated, and hundreds of attendees attended. DBCH will host the second annual health fair in April 2023
  - The All-Abilities Division was incorporated and reimagined, supporting consistent ThinkDIFFERENTLY programming integration.
  - Launched a Mortality Review Committee, with emphasis on overdoses and suicides, in collaboration with behavioral and community health professionals.
  - Implemented the Public Health Innovation Lab (PHIL) intern program, introducing area college students to diverse facets of public health.
- Reestablished the community health clinic and enhanced scheduling flexibility and walk-in opportunities.

- Highlighted inclusion and health equity with development of multilingual health education and communications.
- Procured a Mobile Health Clinic. The state-of-the-art Health RV will provide a variety of health services to residents across Dutchess County. Delivery expected in early 2023.
- Identified and leveraged synergy through collaborations with other governmental and non-governmental agencies including:
  - Ongoing collaboration with OCIS on electronic health record (EHR) design and implementation.
  - Continuation of regular meetings with crucial community partners including school superintendents, local colleges, and service providers.
  - Established and led a social determinants of health network Core Group encompassing a wide variety of community stakeholders to collaborate on improving entry points, safety nets and referral systems.
- Promoted financial sustainability, efficiency, and impact by recruiting and hiring a Fiscal Director and a Director of Performance Management & Data Analytics to optimize operational modernization and excellence.
  - Reviewed existing contracts and developed or enhanced process and outcome metrics for contracted and internal programs and activities, embedding robust accountability.
  - Reinstated and successfully recruited for a Billing Manager position to support standardized financial practices and sustainability.

## All Abilities

### *Administration*

- Following the retirement of Deputy Commissioner of Special Needs Dr. Toni Marie Ciarfella, the division and position was redesigned and is now known as the “All Abilities Program” with Dana Hopkins as “All Abilities Program Director.” The new branding reflected changes to the program and reimagined ways to better serve the Intellectually and Developmentally Disabled (I/DD) community. The All-Abilities Program consists of the ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative, Early Intervention, Preschool Special Education, Children & Youth Services/CSPOA, the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Coordinator.

### *Activities/Events*

- The annual I/DD Public Forum was held in March, virtually, and focused on legal matters affecting the population. It was attended by over 70 community members, parents, and providers.



- In May, the Children and Youth Mental Health Public Forum was also attended by over 70 community members, parents, and providers. Additionally, for the first time, Children and Youth Services held resources and information night where providers had an opportunity to reconnect.
- DBCH's first annual Health Fair featured an entire sensory safe section including sensory activities, a sensory safe area furnished in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity, and educational materials and resources for families. EI/PSE staff provided educational materials for families with children birth to 5 years old.
- Hosted over 200 attendees at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ThinkDIFFERENTLY Fitness and Field Day.
- Offered a Youth Mental Health First Aid "train-the-trainer" program through an OMAH grant which was attended by 12 providers of services throughout the county who are now equipped to conduct YMHFA trainings for others.
- Hosted multiple sensory-friendly events, in partnership with the Bardavon, including David Gonzalez's *Talking Birds and Golden Fish*, attended by approximately 50 individuals, and a performance of *The Nutcracker* by the New Paltz Ballet, a sold-out success with 250 attendees.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual ThinkDIFFERENTLY Conference was held in person and virtually with approximately 84 attendees, for information sharing and discussion of the many resources available to those in the I/DD community.
- The ThinkDIFFERENTLY website had 28,836 hits in 2022 and it has been viewed throughout the United States.
- In 2022, the All-Abilities Program received 74 Children's Single Point of Access (SPOA) applications which a slight decrease from 2021.

#### EI and Preschool Special Education

- The Early Intervention (EI) and Preschool Special Education (PSE) programs continue to work with service providers to efficiently maintain services for approximately 3,600 children annually.
- The PSE program monitoring efforts continue to result in cost savings and improve the quality of services delivered to the children served with:
  - Review of all evaluations for use of appropriate assessment tools and SED required standards

- Desk audit of session notes to ensure compliance with Individual Education Plans (IEP) and appropriate SED services tracking forms; Annual review of IEP's and SED services tracking forms
- Regular program director meetings, provider meetings, and site visits to ensure quality services and compliance with SED regulations
- Continued to partner with the Environmental and Nursing divisions to identify children who may be exposed to lead paint in their home.
- Presented on the Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education Programs to 84 attendees at the 2022 Annual ThinkDIFFERENTLY conference.
- Offered a Pediatric Grand Rounds presentation to 58 pediatricians at the Nuvance Health Monthly Pediatrician Meeting regarding Child Find, EI, and Preschool referral, intake, evaluations, and services for birth to 5 years old with identified developmental delays and special education needs.

### Veterans Services

- Successfully relocated offices to new location on Route 44, Suite 2, in Pleasant Valley. Sharing the building with Mental Health America (MHA) of Dutchess Veterans Programs, Veteran Affairs, Hudson Valley Veterans Alliance, and the Veterans Sportsmen Association the new location creates a “veterans one stop” for veterans and families to access services and supports.
- Rendered 20,212 contact services to Dutchess County Veterans and their families regarding services and entitlements available from federal, state, and local government, a 16% increase over 2021.
- All Service Officers are now NYS and American Legion Accredited, enabling greater access to veterans and claim submission status with the VA.
- Organized well attended veterans’ events including a film screening in partnership with Roosevelt Cinema and the Red, White and You veterans’ picnic at Camp Nooteeming, each with over 400 attendees.
- Participated in well attended MHA of Dutchess County events such as:
  - Fireside talks bringing veterans together to discuss various veterans’ issues
  - Veterans Pasta Dinners in partnership with New York State Senator Sue Serino
  - Veteran Stand Down events with MHA VET-TAP where information was provided to veterans and claims were able to be submitted right on the spot.

- Engaged with the Veteran Liaisons, a network comprised of one town board member from each Dutchess County Township to conduct outreach and make referrals to the Division of Veteran Services.
- In coordination with Department of Planning & Development, awarded two rounds of Veterans Microgrants to 14 local non-profit veterans organizations totaling \$180,000 to enhance activities and programming that address veterans needs and recognize the service of local veterans.
- Provided a \$70,000 grant for Hudson River Housing VETZERO to hire two full time drivers to provide transportation for Dutchess County veterans to and from medical appointments.
- Increased funds for Veterans Homeless program (HERO) and Vet-Tap Programs to \$350,000 due to rising housing costs.
- Worked on plans to build a Veterans monument at the Dutchess County Veterans Memorial Highway and our first Dutchess County Veterans Memorial cemetery located at Wappingers Rural Cemetery.
- Paid out \$12,231 from the Tom Zurhellen Fund to help 14 veterans in need. Collaborated with other agencies for expense payments totaling \$2,312 for two additional veterans that the Tom Zurhellen fund could not/ did not pay for.
- Hosted the annual and well attended Memorial Day and Veterans Day Ceremonies in coordination with county department, local police and fire departments.
- Vet Court successfully began operations in late fall. Veterans Services continues communications with Probation Department as well as with the Veterans who are incarcerated.

#### Public Health Disease Prevention Division (PHDP)

##### *Public Health Nurse Programs*

- Licensed Home Care Service Agency (LHCSA): Maternal Child Home Visiting Program received 237 referrals and 105 cases were opened.
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in 2022 accomplished:
  - 5190 Lead screening tests performed for children residing in Dutchess County.
  - 26 newly identified elevated lead levels reported and addressed by nursing and environmental staff for education, mitigation and follow up testing.
  - 317 children currently tracked via Lead Web for compliance with follow-up testing.

- Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs program hosted workshop at the Trolley Barn in Poughkeepsie to assist Spanish speaking families to learn how to access services for their children with special needs. Collaborated with local service providers and the New York State Office of the New Americans collaborated to provide information in both Spanish and English.

#### *Vaccination/Immunization Program*

- Provided nearly 1,000 adult, childhood, international travel and COVID vaccinations at DBCH clinic at Family Partnership Center:
  - 170 adult immunizations
  - 361 childhood immunizations
  - 65 international travel immunizations
  - 331 adult and child COVID vaccinations
- Responded to statewide MPOX (monkeypox) outbreak by collaborating with local LGBTQAI+ organizations, colleges and Sunriver Health to distribute information and provide MPOX vaccinations to 209 potentially at-risk County residents at various locations. Re-distributed 50 doses of JYNNEOS vaccine to Sun River Health who used their outreach van to vaccinate at a high-yield venue.
- Addressed disparity in school vaccinations by requesting data from County school districts to ascertain the number of unvaccinated or partially vaccinated children, yielding a significant number of non-compliant children in the wake of COVID and related disruptions. Designed a targeted urgent immunization program to assist schools in bridging these vaccination gaps.

#### *Communicable Disease*

- Continued to monitor and respond to the ever-changing COVID-19 pandemic
  - Emergence of Omicron variant in late 2021 led to peak case numbers in winter 2021/22, with the highest number of single day positive cases reported on 1/7/23.
  - Provided information about changing isolation and quarantine guidelines with from the CDC and New York State
  - Continued case investigation and monitored outbreaks in congregate settings (nursing homes, homeless shelters, colleges, rehabs)
  - Providing home test kits to community members in need
  - Promoted Color Health program to bring free COVID testing to under resourced areas
- Saw uptick in Legionellosis cases and sent advisory to local providers to be alert for of cases signs of Legionellosis in patients.

- Monitored for potential EBOLA cases with international travelers who were in regions experiencing EBOLA outbreaks.

#### *Sexual Health Program*

- Monitored Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) as cases continue to rise, mirroring national trends. Confirmed cases counts for 2022:
  - Gonorrhea: 272
  - Chlamydia: 921
  - Syphilis: 71
    - Early, Non-Primary/Secondary: 29
    - Primary: 11
      - Secondary: 18
      - Latent: 13
  - HIV 45 (*Lab reports or partner report forms received reported in NYSDOH secure transfer document 12/16/2022*)
- Resumed full operations at the Sexual Health Clinic post pandemic in spring 2022, serving more 200 patients.

#### *Tuberculosis (TB) Program*

- Conducted more than 200 TB screenings
- Oversaw and treated four active cases in 2022 including one highly complex multi drug resistant TB case that was highlighted in a live webinar to health departments across the United States. Several latent Tuberculosis cases were also evaluated and treated in 2022.

#### *Rabies Pre and Post Prophylaxis Services*

- There were 245 rabies post exposure patients evaluated and treated in 2022.

#### *Adolescent Tobacco-Use Prevention Act (ATUPA)*

- Conducted 288 ATUPA compliance checks, resulting in 31 tobacco or vapor product sales to underage individuals and 12 illegal tobacco or vapor product sales to adults. Seven operators were cited for having prohibited flavored vapor products in their store; five operators cited for failing to allow access to areas of their facility for DBCH inspection.
- Completed 36 enforcement actions for ATUPA related violations (underage and out of package sales; possession of flavored vapor products; tobacco sales without valid permits).
- Received and investigated eight ATUPA and eight Clean Indoor Air Act related complaints.

### *Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention*

- Grant funded program supporting access to high-risk housing in the City of Poughkeepsie to educate, inspect, and control lead-based paint hazards before a child becomes lead poisoned.
- Performed lead hazard assessments at 21 dwellings in the program's target area (high-risk housing in the City of Poughkeepsie) with goal of educating, inspecting, and controlling lead-based paint hazards before a child becomes lead poisoned.
- Received 37 elevated blood lead level referrals for case management.
- Completed five enforcement actions against property owners for failing to complete required lead hazard remediation by specified dates.
- Fully executed a contract with a new provider to offer EPA Lead Renovator certification trainings to property owners and individuals who perform renovation, repair, and painting activities on dwellings built prior to 1978. 60 individuals trained in lead safe work practices since certification trainings launched in October.

### *Communicable Disease*

- Four rabies vaccination clinics for pets were held in partnership with the Dutchess County SPCA, with 374 pets vaccinated.
- Supported one community partner clinic with 39 pets vaccinated.
- Partnered with Dutchess County SPCA to provide education to the community about feral cats and trap neuter vaccination return (TNVR). The DCSPCA held eight classes/events, educating people about the importance of TNVR and also offering trapping lessons to attendees.

### *Food Service*

- Developed food safety training PowerPoint presentations covering personal hygiene, food temperature requirements, and general sanitation with the goal of posting each online for food service workers to view.
- Provided two in-person food safety trainings.

### *Indoor Air Quality*

- Investigated 33 indoor air quality complaints.

### *Legionellosis outbreak investigations*

- Worked with Dutchess County Planning to make updates to the map of cooling tower locations and sent letters to 23 non-compliant cooling tower operators.

### Commission on Human Rights

The Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights' mission is *Defending Human Rights, Bridging Differences, Embracing Diversity*.

- The Commission on Human Rights had more than 230 contacts by 161 unique individuals, organizations, and/or municipalities.
- Hosted (2) cohorts of Undoing Racism Workshop (virtual) in collaboration w/Poughkeepsie Healthy Black & Latinx Coalition.
- Hosted (4) sessions of Bystander Intervention Training.
- Distributed more than 350 "Hate Has No Home Here" signs at 13 events/locations.
- Documented bias and hate incidents including antisemitic, racist and anti-LGBTQIA+ incidents and communications.
- Held *Civic Engagement: Small Places Close to Home* conference for high school students in collaboration with BOCES, FDR Presidential Library & Museum & 3GNY. 175 students & adults from 6 high schools represented. Breakout sessions included:
  - *100 Cups of Coffee: Taking Action: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) Today*
  - *Bystander Intervention Training for Youth, & Living Links: Standing Up to Antisemitism & Hate*
- Collaborated with National Park Service, Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill, FDR Presidential Library/Museum, etc. to create series of 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events for 2023
- Provided Town & Village Outreach Project presentations to introduce its work and serve as a resource to multiple municipalities.
- Executive Director, Jody Miller was recognized by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) – Poughkeepsie Branch as 2022 Woman of the Year and the Northern Dutchess NAACP as the 2022 Woman of Distinction.

## HELPLINE/Trauma Team

### *Administration*

- Developed and implemented new training protocol in compliance with both American Association of Suicidology (AAS) and Vibrant/Lifeline requirements.
- Completed AAS reaccreditation.
- Dutchess County HELPLINE became a Regional 988 (Lifeline) Center in July 2022. Currently answering calls for Dutchess, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties.
- Expanded 911 Diversion protocol by adding the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department.

### *HELPLINE*

- Answered 24,145 calls to 845-485-9700 number; Answered 37,637 texts from 895 individuals.
- Answered 1578 Lifeline calls, 1281 since 988 implementation in July.

### *Trauma Team*

- Responded to 38 trauma calls involving 34 separate incidents
- Continued to add members from the MRC, currently have 22 members and will continue to increase this number to assist with response.
- Increase of requested responses to local school districts. Protocol for school response will be developed to assist schools in determining appropriate response.

### *Stabilization Center*

- The Stabilization Center served more than 3,200 guests in 2022.
  - 1873 guests with mental health concerns
  - 852 guests with substance use disorder (SUD) concerns
  - 482 guests under 18 years old

### *AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment)*

- There are currently 61 AOT Active orders and 6 Enhanced Service Contract orders.



### *Adult SPOA (Single Point of Access)*

- Received and processed 208 Adult SPOA applications; housed 37 individuals. Current Active SPOA is 106 individuals.
- Received and processed 47 Adult Care Management applications.
- Received and processed 72 ACT (Assertive Community Treatment) referrals.

### Dutchess County Medical Examiner's Office (DCME)

- 1524 cases reported for 2022 of which 537 cases required DCME investigation, including
  - 300 autopsies
  - 65 external examinations
  - 159 death certificate certifications
  - 13 consultations
- Of the cases autopsied, examined and certified by the DCME, there were 12 homicides; 41 suicides; 209 accidents; 212 natural deaths; 5 undetermined; with 45 cases pending investigation
- 9 DCME cases released to LiveOnNY and/or Lions Eye Bank for tissue/bone/organ/corneal donation
- Set up contracts for Touro College medical students, Marist College physician assistant programs and VBMC neurology residents to observe at DCME.
- Hosted the John Jay High School forensic science class on May 19, 2022
- Worked with the Opiate Task Force and participated in the Suicide & Overdose Fatality Review Committee (S/OD FRC) Overview
- Continued a shared services contract to perform autopsies for Rensselaer County Medical Examiner's Office including 112 autopsies and 42 deaths certifications.

### Coordinated Services

- Shifted Public Health Education Coordinators (PHECs) out of COVID call center and returned to coordinated services.
- Assigned PHECs to specific communities with the Community Regionalization Project; attending 317 outreach events with emphasis on high-needs areas.

- Offered 236 Narcan trainings with 1918 people trained and 2916 Narcan kits distributed.
- Began offering All Access hours and engaged law-involved individuals and ITAP clients at Empowerment Center.

#### *LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion)*

- Secured staffing with PeopleUSA, training, and resources to support this new program aimed at street-based interventions on individuals encountered by law enforcement who may have complex social and behavioral needs.

#### *Mobile Health Clinic*

- Designed mental health and substance use related programming for new Mobile Health RV.

#### *Suicide/Overdose Fatality Review Committee*

- Led the creation and orientation of the novel Fatality Review Committee, which will focus on comprehensive case reviews for fatalities related to suicide or overdose, allowing for the potential identification of salient patterns and red flags.

#### *Resiliency Council for Suicide Prevention*

- Began Gun Owners Outreach which includes partnership with gun instructors, gun shop proprietors and other stakeholders to educate on the red flags of suicidality. Additionally, 988 information card displays were distributed to gun shops and clubs.

#### *Public Health Innovation Lab (PHIL)*

- Enrolled 10 students during inaugural semester who successfully completed a diverse range of projects including unique educational materials and maps of local resources.

#### *Trainings*

- Conducted a variety of trainings including Narcan, Fentanyl Test Strips, Youth Mental Health First Aid Train the Trainers, LGBTQIA+ Cultural Humility, and Trauma Informed Care, among others.

#### Partial Hospital Program

- Two therapists became certified Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT).
- Attended trainings to enhance staff's clinical skills for treating clients including:

- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy CBT for Groups
- Introduction to Recovery Oriented Cognitive Therapy CT-R
- Psychopharmacology for Mental Health Professionals
- Compassion Fatigue Prevention & Resiliency
- The Ultimate Grief Toolbox Certification Course
- Certified Clinical Anxiety Treatment Professional (CCATP)

### Intensive Treatment Alternatives Program (ITAP)

ITAP is an alternative to incarceration outpatient day rehabilitation program. In 2022, ITAP had a total of 39 Intakes and an Average Daily Census of 22 patients.

- Peer Recovery Coaches led ITAP clients in creating a garden in the courtyard outside ITAP.
- Workforce Grant professional development funding from the Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) enabled 45 people from ITAP staff, probation officers and other addiction and recovery community providers to train in Helping Men Recover, a trauma informed group-based recovery support program.

### Jail Based Program

- Jail-based Chemical Dependency Counselor provided services to incarcerated individuals who presented an opioid use disorder and any other addiction related problem. Individual and group counseling sessions provided evidence-based interventions that supported maintenance on medications for opioid use disorder, education about risks associated with overdose and train participants on the use of NARCAN.

### Forensic Services

- Completed 178 Forensic Evaluations based upon referrals from the courts, probation, and attorneys. Upon completion of the evaluation, recommendations for addiction and recovery treatment are made to the court.
- Appointed forensic staff as co-chair of the DC Juvenile Justice Committee
- Attended Drug Court trainings that were helpful in providing recommendations for making the courtroom more trauma informed.

### *Probation Based Staff*

- Collaboration between an on-site social worker and Probation staff provided interventions, consultations, treatment referrals and crisis intervention to adult probationers.

- Participated on the Women in Criminal Justice Committee and assisted in the development of the Re-Entry Resource Guide for women.
- Probation's Collaborative Solutions Team assisted in mental health screenings, consultations, crisis intervention, substance use screenings, assessments, and referral. Trainings on Teen Intervene and Functional Family Therapy, an evidence-based family counseling intervention for at-risk youth and families were also completed.

### Performance Management & Data Analytics

#### *Community Health Assessment (CHA) – Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)*

- Participated in and led a multi-county Hudson Valley Public Health Collaborative that was responsible for a 7-county regional community health assessment, including a regional community health survey with Siena College Research Institute that received almost 1,000 responses from Dutchess County residents, a service provider survey, and focus groups with 31 community organizations that serve sensitive populations.
- Supported Dutchess County Health Fair by preparing materials on the Community Health Assessment, setting up ability to have fair participants take the regional community health survey and inviting participants to the CHIP Summit.
- Held and hosted Community Health Improvement Summit for 60 community partners with presentations on latest community health assessment findings, previous CHIP accomplishments and discussions on future CHIP initiatives.
- Drafted and submitted latest Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) with partnership from Tobacco Free Action Communities, Nuvance Health and the Dutchess County Jail. Initiatives focus on tobacco use prevention and cessation, food security and nutrition education, medicated assisted treatment to prevent accidental overdose and suicide prevention.

#### *Communicable Disease Data*

- Maintained public-facing COVID-19 dashboard- calculation and entry of over 3,000 data points covering case incidence (35,835), 190 fatalities and hospitalizations daily and weekly.
- Maintained MPOX case and JYNNEOS vaccination data and created JYNNEOS vaccine survey for public use and tracking of interest.

#### *Cerner*

- Developed Integration Test scripts for Behavioral Health programs. These are step-by-step depictions of an end-user's workflow.

- Several rounds of data migration testing and validation were performed to ensure data had been transmitted accurately. Over 100 clients were reviewed, with 31 elements checked on each client validated
- Hosted 3-day Cerner onsite event for reboot and better inclusion and delineation of existing and future workflows.

### *Regulation, Compliance, Billing*

- Reviewed 14 contract scopes, aligned with CFR funding and program codes, representing over 15 million dollars of contracted services for Dutchess County. The scopes were rewritten using language from NYS to best represent the services contracted, and Outcome Metrics were designed for each service category.
- Updated Annual Training plan to use Relias Training system in 2023. 2022 Trainings provided in Cultural Competence, Dual Special Needs Program to meet compliance requirements for Managed Care contracts.

### Environmental Health Services (EHS)

#### *Administration*

- Contracted with an Administrative Law judge to preside monthly over 77 new administrative hearings. The types of enforcement actions are broken down as follows: 7 new cases related with community sanitation program violations: 51 new cases related to with lead hazards and ATUPA violations and 19 new cases related to public water supply and sewage failure violations.
- ATUPA/Childhood Lead/Indoor Air/Tanning functions transferred to Public Health and Disease Prevention Division.
- Developed and collaborated with OCIS to develop improved community sanitation webpages.

#### *Bathing Beaches and Swimming Pools*

- Regulated 27 bathing beaches collecting 644 samples for fecal coliform testing, with 3 samples exceeding the threshold for acceptable bathing water. Resampling demonstrated acceptable water quality. 2 critical violations were cited and corrected.
- Permitted 186 public pool operations and performed 654 public pool inspections and re-inspections. 125 critical violations were cited; most violations were associated with inadequate disinfection, inadequate supervision, and improper enclosure of the pool.

### *Children's Camps*

- Regulated 51 children's camp operations and:
  - Performed 171 children's camp inspections and re-inspections. 17 critical violations were cited; most violations were associated with supervision and swimming safety.
  - Investigated 138 reportable children's camp injuries/illnesses;
  - Reported COVID-19 illnesses at 22 camp operations.
  - Provided outreach to children camp operators on how to adequately treat water to prevent norovirus.

### *Communicable Disease*

- Investigated 598 potential human rabies exposures from animal contacts.
- Reported 105 animal specimens were tested and of the specimens tested, 11 were positive for rabies.
- 110 people received rabies post exposure prophylaxis after rabies exposure investigations were completed.

### *Engineering Projects*

- Hosted an Engineering Meet and Greet in December for the local consulting engineering community.
- Reviewed 2145 engineering submissions for approval of private wells, sewage collection, treatment and disposal systems, public water source, treatment, distribution and storage systems, public swimming pools and subdivisions.

### *Food Service*

- Partnered with OCIS to develop a temporary food service web application where operators will be able to apply and pay online.
- Regulated 1392 food service operations, 126 mobile food services, 483 temporary food services.
- Performed 2799 food service inspections and re-inspections
  - 980 critical violations were cited and resolved; the most frequently cited violations were room temperature storage of food, inadequate cooling of food, and inadequate refrigeration.
  - Responded to 130 food service facility complaints

### *Housing & Nuisance Complaints*

- Investigated 342 housing complaints and 39 indoor air complaints along with the Public Health and Disease Prevention Division.
- Responded to carbon monoxide poisoning incident due to a malfunction in heating system.
- Investigated 58 public nuisance complaints.

### *Private wells*

- Processed 223 Well permit applications.
- Reviewed 387 sampling results for private wells tested as part of Town mandated private well testing initiatives. Sent 338 letters to homeowners when results exceeded drinking water standards.

### *Public Water Systems*

- Partnered with OCIS to develop a public water web application where operators of such facilities will be able to submit monthly operations reports, sampling results, annual water quality reports and other documents directly into the application for processing.
- Regulated the operation of 625 public water systems, including 8 new public water systems added in 2022, in Dutchess County.
  - 1144 site visits conducted, 296 sanitary surveys completed; 689 violations cited.
  - Investigated 288 chemical spills for impacts to public water supplies. There were eight new public water systems in 2022.
  - Investigated 18 public water system complaints.
- Tested 3044 chemical samples and 1645 bacteriological samples as per SDWIS.

### *Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems*

- Processed 206 SAN 34 applications to construct and inspect residential septic systems. Designed improvements to the EDITS SAN 34 tab, reports, and project management tools
- Completed 158 residential septic system installation inspections; investigated 76 reports of sewage failure.

*Temporary Residence, Campgrounds, Mobile Home Parks, Migrant Farmworker Housing, Rooming Houses & Bed and Breakfasts*

- Regulated 94 temporary residences and completed 152 inspections and re-inspections. 21 critical violations were cited and corrected. Investigated 5 temporary residence complaints.
- Regulated 10 campground operations and performed 28 campground inspections and re-inspections. 0 critical violations were cited.
- Regulated 79 mobile home park operations, and performed 85 mobile home park inspections, identifying several sewage failures, and working to gain compliance. Investigated 9 mobile home park facility complaints.
- Regulated 11 migrant farmworker housing operations and performed 30 inspections and re-inspections. 0 critical violations were cited.
- Permitted 5 public functions (attendance of over 5000 people); the Dutchess County Fair, the Sheep and Wool Festival, the Rhinebeck Antique Car Show, Barton Orchard Harvest Weekends and Sinterklaas. No critical violations were cited.
- Regulated 35 rooming houses and Bed and Breakfasts and performed 45 inspections and re-inspections. Investigated 3 rooming house complaints.

Weights and Measures

- Performed 566 inspections at 378 establishments.
- Inspected 3,929 weighing and measuring devices; 3,780 devices were found to be correct, a 96% accuracy rate.
- Conducted 234 Gas Signage Inspections.
- Submitted 181 gas samples taken from random Dutchess County gas stations for octane analysis as part of the New York State Petroleum Quality Program; no violations were found.
- Conducted 46 inspections for pricing accuracy, more than 4323 items checked with 98.5% accuracy rate.
- Responded to 42 complaints which included: gas signage, scale accuracy, weight discrepancy, accuracy of amount of fuel dispensed, fuel pump operation, fuel dispenser condition, fuel quality, item pricing and scanner accuracy at supermarkets, delis, and small establishments.



- Gathered 28 supermarkets and 18 chain pharmacies in Dutchess County now participating in the Item Pricing Waiver Law, enabling them to provide price scanners and shelf price labels instead of placing a price sticker on each item.
- Licensed 23 Secondhand Dealers in Dutchess County.

## Office of Central and Information Services (OCIS)

### Division of Information Services

- Ranked 5th in the nation for the Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association of Counties (NACo)'s 2022 Digital Counties Survey for best use of technology to produce efficient services and better serve residents in the 250,000-499,000 population category. Dutchess County has consistently ranked in the nation's top-10 for 20 consecutive years.
- Received 2022 Best of New York Award for Indigov Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) from Government Technology Magazine.
- Received 2022 Government Experience Award, Project Experience Winner - *Moving Dutchess Forward*, the County's Long-Range Transportation Plan.
- Received 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the 2022 Government Experience Awards and received Overall County Government Experience Award from GovTech.

### *County Intranet & Internet*

- Continued to expand online intranet training portal to give employees access to learn Office 365 productivity tools, OnBase tools, and cybersecurity.
- Website engagement has increased dramatically over the past few years as residents sought information relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. While usage numbers are lower than the peak numbers seen in 2020 and 2021, total usage has stabilized and remains dramatically higher than pre-pandemic counts.
  - **Visitors:** 801,196 visitors or users visited the Dutchess County Government website in 2022, nearly 80% more visitors than in 2019, prior to the pandemic.

- **Pages Served** (HTML and documents): 29,134,442 pages were served on the County's website, nearly double pre-pandemic service. This counts the total number of website pages and documents such as PDFs, Excel spreadsheets, etc. visited by users, including repeat visits.
- **Pageviews** (HTML pages only): Pageviews totaled 2,538,793 for 2022, 32% higher than pre-pandemic pageview counts. This counts the total number of HTML website pages visited, including repeat visits.
- **Bounce rate:** Bounce rate increased slightly from 65.2% to 66%. Bounce rate is defined as the percentage of visitors to a particular website who navigate away from the site after viewing only one page.
- **Average time on page:** Improved average time on page from 2 minutes 10 seconds to 2 minutes 6 seconds.

#### *Customer Service*

- Launched new OCIS Training Program with the NeoGov application for County staff.
- Processed, balanced, and printed more than 100,000 tax bills for School Taxes representing 15 districts and 59 towns and processed, balanced, and printed more than 100,000 tax bills for Property Taxes representing 2 cities, 20 towns and the Hyde Park Fire and Water District.

#### *Cybersecurity*

- Increased cybersecurity awareness by promoting National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in October and promoting employee engagement via intranet links to cyber safety tips.
- Addressed all cyber regulations for New York State (NYS) Board of Elections (BOE) including network segmentation and joint contract between OCIS and BOE.
- Improved cyber governance including the Cybersecurity Incident Response (IR) Policy and IR Plan, which enables a coordinated response to a cyber incident.
- Received a grant from New York State (NYS) Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHES) to improve application security via whitelisting.
- Enhanced the Splunk application, which provides log aggregation and monitoring with real-time alerts for any cyber threats.

- Completed countywide rollout of Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) to ensure secure end-user login for all county employees to protect against cyber attacks.
- Published *Cybersecurity Primer for Government Leaders*, as a Committee Member for the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC).
- Implemented recommendations provided by an internal risk assessment from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES).
- Participated in a 4-hour virtual Federal Board of Elections (BOE) Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise facilitated by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), with breakout sessions for each state (17 states) with 10 counties in NYS.
- Participated in the first ever 3-hour onsite county Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise facilitated by the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES).
- Provided Cybersecurity End-User Awareness Training via KnowBe4 using active campaigns testing end-users on phishing attacks and online learning.
- Provided Developer Security Awareness Training to all staff within OCIS responsible for developing custom software applications.

### *Digital Transformation*

- With the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council, conducted a data analysis of the effects of the State's Bail Reform legislation.
- With the Department of Behavioral & Community Health, developed a pilot program for its preschool in the Beacon City School District, including configuring DocuSign with a fillable digital form for Parental Consent to Bill Medicaid and made forms available on County website, which helped increase the rate of return of the form by parents, enabling County to bill Medicaid for special education services.
- Assisted in creating a digital form for the Department of Emergency Response's Access and Functional Needs Registry, which launched in coordination with the Ready Dutchess smart phone application.
- Completed integration with an additional vendor for e-Recording County Clerk documents, increasing access to documents and reducing paper flowing through Clerk's office.
- Implemented configuration changes in Tyler Tech New World Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to handle changes in recently negotiated contracts, including accruals and salary changes.

- Automated NYS Tax Warrant download process to use new service from State.
- Implemented OnBase for Department of Community and Family Services Day Care unit for digital storage of day care records.
- Upgraded OpenText to improve County website functionality for developers and end users.
- Calculated and processed retroactive payments based on recently negotiated labor contracts.

### *Infrastructure Support*

- Implemented an aggressive disaster recovery testing program using Zerto Long Term Recovery (LTR) which replaced legacy IBM Tivoli. Benefit: Faster recovery time and improved continuity of operations during a disaster.
- Made numerous improvements to the County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applications:
  - Updated internal GIS Connection website to improve access.
  - Redesigned and updated *GIS Metadata Catalog* to improve security and allow specific data sharing via Open Data Portal. Benefit: Improved management of GIS Metadata, improved security, as well as added option to share specific metadata with public via Open Data Portal.
  - Deployed *Open Data Portal* for GIS layers to the public, resulting in work-load relief for staff and improved public access.
  - Updated *Bicycle Parking* application to improve functionality and ease of adding additional data and rebranded app to be *Bike Dutchess*.
  - Created *Independent Reapportionment Commission (IRC) Map* for the public to view draft, then adopted legislative districts.
  - Updated and Modernized numerous applications to incorporate new data, responsiveness, and user-friendly interfaces, including *AerialAccess*, *Address Info-Finder*, *Referral Identifier*, *Historic Resource Survey*, and *ParcelAccess* applications.
  - Revamped the *RPS4 Extract* System to be integrated with database system and more easily updated and maintained in the future.
  - Launched a new *MS4 Viewer* for municipal access, replacing an older system and is now responsive.
- Supported technology infrastructure including networks, servers, Help Desk, telephones, deskside workstation support, printers, and/or server rooms to meet ongoing client business needs.

### *Shared Services*

- Implemented Tyler Technologies New World Public Safety application with the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department, improving cross-agency integration, coordination and response times.
- Transitioned to Cannon for multi-purpose copiers to copy, print, scan, and fax documents through the County's multi-purpose copier program, providing cost savings to participants.
- NYS Joint Security Operations Center JSOC provided end-point security service via CrowdStrike solution as a shared service, saving n taxpayer dollars while providing 24x7 monitoring and alerts.
- Provided cloud-based web hosting to municipal websites including Board of Elections, City of Beacon, Dutchess County 911, Path to Promise, Town of Wappinger, Upper Landing Park in Poughkeepsie, and Village of Wappingers.

### Division of Central Services

#### *Mail Room*

- Put a new vehicle into service for courier use, made courier routes more efficient while adding more delivery stops, and successfully trained a new courier.

#### *Municipal Procurement Assistance Program and Shared Services*

- Maintained the Municipal Procurement Assistance Program for municipalities to have access to professional, lower-cost procurement services throughout the County, reducing the need for the services at the local level and providing significant estimated savings.
- Contracted with 18 municipalities for procurement shared services; assisted contracted municipalities with 22 procurement projects.

#### *Print Shop*

- Received over 1,200 printing requests. Completed nearly 3 million impressions.
- Printed more than 100,000 school tax and property tax bills in a timely manner amid installation of new copiers per the new copier contract with Cannon.

#### *Procurement Card*

- Created a Procurement Card checklist to ensure proper workflow.

- Continued to ensure the necessary procurement card limits were increased to allow for purchases of emergency supplies.
- Received a yearly rebate based on the County's Procurement Card Program. For the fourth year of the rebate program (March 2021 – February 2022), Dutchess County received over \$19,000 in rebates.

### *Purchasing*

- Conducted asset verification with Department Heads, ensuring accountability for all assets valued at \$5K or more.
- Negotiated the acquisition of an ATM for the County Office Building, generating future revenue for the County.
- Received 75 Requests for Bid and Proposal submissions and 31 Requests for Quotes submissions.
- Staff member received a Certificate of Achievement from National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP) for being a part of the team that launched the State Association of Municipal Purchasing Officials (SAMPO) Emerging Professionals Program, was awarded the National Cooperative Procurement Partners (NCP) 2022 Above and Beyond award, and was selected as one of American City & County's Exemplary Public Servants for 2022.
- Continued to provide logistics support for the Dutchess County Jail POD as a homeless shelter.
- Participated in multi-County bids and forums to enable the procurement of supplies, successfully navigating disruptions in supply chain distribution.
- Contract Specialist Sarah Andrews was recognized with several national awards including:
  - Certificate of Achievement from National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP)
  - 2022 Above and Beyond award from the National Cooperative Procurement Partners
  - American City & County's Exemplary Public Servants from 2022
- Hosted a seminar presented by United States General Services Administration (GSA) educating County department heads and/or purchasing staff on GSA's federal contracts and their benefits, including demonstrating GSA online tools available to agencies to research and acquire the commodity or service needed.

### *Storeroom*

- Continued e-waste program, eliminating the County's need to pay for disposal service resulting in the removal of 12,000 pounds of e-waste such as old monitors, computers, printers and more.
- Repurposed approximately 167 pieces of furniture allowing County departments, local municipalities, and agencies to save over \$11,600.
- Continued to be the main distribution point for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for County departments.
- Coordinated three surplus equipment auctions and three vehicle sales, generating over \$86,150 in revenue.

## **Community and Family Services**

DCFS continued to attend to the needs of County residents and the delivery of services provided in 2022 continued to be affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as well as the economic impacts of inflation seen throughout the year. Many new policies and procedures were implemented to provide alternatives to in-person visits, but if the requirement or desire was present to visit our service locations, we were open and ready to serve.

- Delivered services to more than 1 in 10 Dutchess County residents, reaching over 30,000 unduplicated individuals across all programs.
- The phone booth installed in the reception area of the main office building in 2021 was very popular among clients who appreciated talking with their workers without having to meet face-to-face. The client privacy booth was utilized for more than 8,600 calls in 2022.
- Ensured that Medicaid coverage that would have expired during the pandemic was reinstated so there was no gap in coverage for existing Medicaid recipients.
- Effective August 1, 2022, the income eligibility level for the Child Care Assistance Program was increased from 200% to 300% of the federal poverty level. In addition, childcare assistance is now provided for 12 months at a time if the family income stays below the maximum amount allowed and no other case closure reasons are met. Family shares cannot be increased during the 12-month eligibility period and childcare assistance must continue through the end of the eligibility period, even after a child turns 13 years old.
- The Commissioner's Rapid Response team received 1,761 inquiries through the DCFSinfo email on the County public website, an increase of 75% from 2021 when it was introduced.

- Offered annual *Navigating the DCFS System* hybrid workshop to bring providers up to date on the various benefits available, with a particular focus on Temporary Housing Assistance. 64 individuals representing 20 agencies participated in the workshop (49 in person and 15 virtual).
- Presented “Modify 2 Modify: How We Twisted Our Internal Process to Implement the E-Mods” at The New York Public Welfare Associations 153rd Annual Summer Conference in Saratoga, providing a detailed workflow for processing environmental modification waivers.
- Presented *Navigating the DCFS System: Processing 1915(c) Consolidated Children’s’ Waiver Environmental Modifications* within Dutchess County for Health Home Representatives and Care Coordinators.
- Adoption recruiter partnership with NYS Office of Children and Family Services, Children’s Home of Poughkeepsie and the Wendy’s Wonderful Kids Foundation continued. The recruiter worked with 7 children. The Department finalized a total of 29 adoptions in 2022, more than twice as the previous year.
- The number of children in Foster Care increased in 2022 and the percentage of children placed in approved relative homes increased. As of December 31, 2021, there were 117 children in foster care, with 26.49% (31) of them placed in approved relative homes. As of December 31, 2022, there were 140 children in foster care, with 32.85% (46) of them placed in approved relative homes.
- Continued the partnership with Mental Health America to pilot a Coached Visitation Program, an interactive program that focuses on trained volunteers coaching parents during supervised visits, teaching them to meet the needs of their children so that children can safely return home from foster care. In 2022, seven families received these services.
- Continued to provide emergency shelter services at for the homeless the temporary PODs located in the Law Enforcement Center and Jail campus, sheltering an average of 146 individuals per night, up 59% from 2021.
- Dutchess County was allocated federal Emergency Rental Assistance funds to assist households that have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 and are at risk of homelessness or housing instability. While the program is administered by the State, the Department spearheaded an extensive outreach effort to get the word out and assist both landlords and tenants with the application process. As of December 31, 2022, there were 3,658 applications for rental arrear, of which 1,481 also included prospective rental applications, and 1,033 utility arrears applications from Dutchess County. As of December 14, 2022, 2025 applications were paid a total of \$20,689,003.24.



### *Reception*

- The Poughkeepsie Front Desk handled 19,642 transactions, an increase of 7% from 2021, including 14,856 new/recertification applications or documents dropped off at the front desk.
- A total of 154 additional transactions were completed through the Poughkeepsie main office self-service kiosks.

### *Administrative Services*

- Processed 110,959 pieces of outgoing US Mail (not including inter-office mail).
- Distributed 6,211 documents submitted through the NYDocSubmit mobile app, a 24% increase over 2021.
- Recorded 9,346 incoming voter registration forms (included in benefit application packages).
- Held and processed 747 Fair Hearings. DCFS was successfully upheld in 95% of fair hearings held. All Fair Hearings have been held virtually in response to the pandemic.
- Completed 33 Fiscal Day Care Audits for NYS Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS) for the first three quarters of 2022. All transactions and funding calculations were properly claimed and processed for Dutchess County without any discrepancies.
- Processed over 300 contracts and MOUs for various services including, but not limited to, supportive service agreements, domestic violence, employment, homeless prevention, foster care services, resource parents, etc. Over 50% of the service providers contract were executed by January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Processed 62,000 fiscal transactions in the accounting unit, totaling more than \$39,907,000.
- Using DCFS's credit card processing service, the accounting unit processed 263 credit/debit card transactions for a total of \$56,555.32.
- Scheduled all mandatory and necessary training for new and existing staff; tracked CPS staff to ensure compliance with State In-Service training requirements.

### *Adult Services*

- Received 740 Protective Services for Adults (PSA) referrals and provided ongoing services to 480 adults, of which 24 involved Guardian Services and 53 Representative Payee Services.

- Administered the Family Type Home Program, a licensed community congregate care program that provides 24-hour adult care in a home environment to adults in need of minimal assistance with their adult daily living needs. As of December 31, 2022, there were 14 such homes in Dutchess County.
- Conducted 16 inspections for the Foster Family Home Program, a licensed community congregate care program with medical oversight.
- Provided Domestic Violence Liaison (DVL) service to people who need assistance in obtaining waivers for eligibility determinations, emergency residential services or non-residential domestic violence services. There were 64 new DVL assessments and 25 reassessments.
- Provided Temporary Emergency Housing to 649 adults and 412 children, a 76% and 27% respective increase over 2021. A total of \$6,269,575 was expended on emergency housing.

#### *Children's Services*

- Child Protective Services (CPS) investigated 2,374 reports of suspected child abuse or maltreatment in 2022.
- Placed 99 children in foster care and discharged 76 children from foster care to permanence; 141 children are in foster care as of December 31.
- Completed 29 adoptions and 14 Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KinGap) discharges. As of the end of December, 21 foster children had a goal of adoption.
- Recruitment efforts continued to locate, train, and certify qualified foster parents for Dutchess County children. In 2022, 12 new kinship foster homes were certified and 9 more are open in emergency status, pending final certification. As of December 2022, Dutchess County had a total of 76 active foster/adoptive homes and 18 relative foster homes certified and opened.
- Continued implementing family meetings, bringing the immediate family, extended family, and significant people in the family's life together to discuss how they can address the safety concerns in lieu of placing the children in foster care.
- Continued to partner with the Office of Probation and Community Corrections to provide services to meet the needs of Juvenile Delinquent (JD) youth. In 2022, 26 youths required non-secure detention.

- Continued to partner with the Office of Probation and Community Corrections to provide services to meet the needs of Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) youth. In 2022, 2 youths were in Pre-Dispositional Placement.
- Continued to coordinate Secure Detention Services on a 24-hour basis. In 2022, 23 youths required secure detention and 8 youths required specialized secure detention placement.
- In the fall of 2022, outreach letters and brochures were sent to all Dutchess County school districts to address educational neglect, offering in-person presentations regarding Child Protective Services and available Community Based Preventive Services. The response was positive, and several presentations were scheduled for the 2022-2023 school year. In 2022, 4 presentations were given to the following schools districts: Arlington, Wappingers, Webutuck and Dutchess BOCES.

### *Safe Harbor/Human Trafficking*

- Received 36 referrals of at-risk youth.
- Held 6 meetings of the full Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking.
- Conducted 19 human trafficking awareness presentations to Dutchess County agencies and residents.
- Attended several events to disseminate information, including Red Hook Town Hall Forum, Dutchess County Fair, Dutchess County Health Fair (Poughkeepsie Galleria), National Night Out (City of Poughkeepsie), School Event for Spanish Speaking families (Dover)
- Facilitated the Love146 Prevention/Education program to 4 different groups of youth.
- Participated in Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Abuse and SART committees, the Criminal Justice Council Victims Subcommittee and the DCFS Diversity and Inclusion Team

### *Youth Services*

- The Youth Board and Coordinating Council awarded New York State Office of Children and Family Services funding to 20 programs for a total of \$208,075.
- The Youth Board and Coordinating Council awarded scholarships to a Spackenkill High School student and a Dutchess Community College student.
- Provided supported services for 162 children/youth, a 28% increase from 2021. Of those, 131 cases were closed, and 130 clients achieved at least one goal.

- Conducted 20 workshops with a total of 165 youth and 25 adults participating.
- Thirteen families completed the 7-week Strengthening Families program.
- Distributed approximately 200 bookbags to children donated by Fostering Hope Together at the National Night Out event held in Poughkeepsie.
- Dutchess County Youth Council enrolled 48 students throughout the County. Council members created posters and conducted presentations on Discrimination and Violence, Environment and Conservation, and “Stressure” (stress and pressure) at an event held on June 10, 2022.

#### *Path To Promise*

- More than 2,200 users visited the Path-To-Promise website ([pathtopromise.net](http://pathtopromise.net)) to provide information about Path To Promise initiative and community assets for children, youth, and families in Dutchess County.
- Continued participation in the Dutchess County BOCES Main Advisory Council to assist with developing career and technical education programs in Dutchess County.
- The department participated in the Youth Opportunity Advisory Committee, providing input in the redevelopment of the former YMCA site in Poughkeepsie. Over 100 elementary and high school students participated in the Youth Opportunity Union (YOU) banner project developed by The Art Effect and Small Stuff LLC, to amplify the voices of local youth and build public enthusiasm for the youth center.
- Partnered with the Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board and Dutchess Community College to organize the Annual Youth Summit for 150 youth held at Poughkeepsie Galleria.
- Partnered with the Poughkeepsie Children’s Cabinet, Poughkeepsie City School District, and Boston College Lynch School of Education to implement the City Connects pilot initiative at Poughkeepsie Middle School, providing individualized support services to students. The City Connects Coordinator continued to monitor the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students as they transitioned into 7<sup>th</sup> grade. There were 290 students enrolled in the City Connects in 2022.
- Partnered with Astor Services for Children and Families to launch the READY4K pilot program for families enrolled in the Head Start program. The READY4K Core curriculum includes literacy, math, Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and/or health information delivered via text messages to families enrolled in program. 337 Head Start families participated in Ready4K in 2022.

- 46 youth completed the Dutchess County Youth and Police Initiative (YPI) Program; 5 law enforcement officers from the New York State Police, Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, and the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department, and 1 Youth Services Division staff member completed the YPI Train-The-Trainer Program. 18 probation officers participated in various training activities.
- Following the County's purchase of Camp Nooteeming, a 272-acre camp located in Pleasant Valley, more than 1,000 County youth participated in a variety of educational and recreational summer activities. 19 additional public access and community events were held, attracting more than 4,000 attendees.

### *Temporary Assistance*

- Processed 4,189 Temporary Assistance applications.
- Referred and opened 104 cases with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley to assist with SSI applications. A total of 35 applications were submitted and 20 were to receive awards, totaling \$203,700 in annual benefits (\$16,975 monthly) to Dutchess County households and \$68,989 in retroactive benefits received for clients who were assisted with applications.
- Temporary Assistance averaged 784 cases per month. As of December 31, there were 869 individuals receiving temporary assistance (TA). According to the employment assessments conducted by our contractor Industrial Medicine Associate (IMA), as of December 31, there were 99 TA recipients deemed unemployable due to Substance Use.
- Through continued partnership with BOCES, 19 individuals completed the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) intake assessment. 6 Temporary Assistance recipients enrolled in Adult Basic Education (ABE) classes and/or the High School Equivalency program. Additionally, there were 4 individuals enrolled in other training programs offered at BOCES, including Certified Nurse's Assistant (CNA); Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC); or phlebotomy; 3 completed their training.
- Through a partnership with the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, DCFS offers TANF eligible individuals with employment and life skills workshops, job seeking, placement, and retention services. 35 clients participated in the Workforce Connections program; 16 recipients became employed.
- DCFS offered a Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) through the Work Force Investment Board (WIB) for eligible youth from low-income households and foster care youth. 144 county youth participated, of which 7 were active on Temporary Assistance.

- The “Way to Work Dutchess” program, (formerly Community Solutions for Transportation) administered by the Workforce Investment Board for DCFS, assists low-income working families meet their transportation needs. 45 eligible Dutchess County residents were assessed for transportation needs and offered instruction in financial literacy, 5 participants received preowned vehicles. Additionally, 6 individuals received their learner’s permit, 11 participants took driving instruction, and 6 earned their New York State driver’s license.
- Contracted with Exodus for employment services targeting eligible TANF and Safety Net individuals, post-incarceration, with comprehensive job seeking, job retention services, job education and training career/employment planning. 69 TANF/SN eligible individuals participated, with 29 becoming employed, earning an average hourly wage of \$15 and working an average of 30 hours per week.

#### *Day Care Unit*

- Provided services to 620 families and 995 children with no waiting list.

#### *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program*

- As of November 30, there were 9,087 SNAP applications were received. 10,837 cases are currently open representing 17,530 individuals.

#### *Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)*

- Authorized 13,696 regular benefits (increase of 23% over 2021) for a total of \$6,831,105 for the 2021-2022 HEAP season (October 1, 2021, to April 29, 2022).
- Emergency HEAP opened on January 3 and closed on July 20, 2022. A total of 1,169 emergency HEAP benefits were issued, totaling \$1,037,880. 324 households received a 2<sup>nd</sup> emergency HEAP benefit, totaling \$297,036.
- Heating Equipment Repair & Replacement (HERR) started on October 1, 2021 and closed on September 30, 2022. Authorized 31 furnace/boiler repairs, 41 furnace/boiler replacements, totaling \$275,228.
- Clean & Tune Component of HEAP opened on October 1, 2021 and closed on September 30, 2022. During that time, 157 Clean & Tune services were completed, totaling \$47,540.
- During the 2021-2022 HEAP Season, the Emergency Fuel Depots dispensed a total of 1,556 gallons of heating fuel to 156 households, nearly double from the prior year.

- Cooling Assistance Component (CAC) of HEAP opened on May 2 and closed on April 29, 2022. 215 CAC benefits were issued totaling \$166,764. The maximum benefit was \$800 per unit.

#### *Indigent burials*

- 243 burials assistance were requested: 128 were approved and 115 denied. A total of \$248,898 was paid to funeral homes for burial of the indigents.

#### *Medicaid*

- Processed 29,027 transactions, for a total caseload of 15,301 (as of 11/30/21).
  - 2,973 applications were Community Medicaid applications, bringing total community Medicaid cases caseload to 15,301.
  - 440 chronic care applications were received, for a total of 944 active cases.
  - 172 SSI applications were received, for a total of 5,254 SSI active cases.
  - 240 cases had determinations for Disability Reviews.
  - 731 cases referred by New York State of Health (NYSOH) for local processing.
- Initiated 3 projects for the consolidated 1915c Children's Waiver from NYSDOH to LDSS for Environmental Modifications; these included 2 bathrooms and 1 generator. Completed 2 bathrooms, 1 stair glide, and 1 vehicle.
- Participated at the Trolley Barn Gallery in a workshop with Office for New Americans and Developmental Disabilities Planning Council for families with disabled children to learn the process to access disability services.
- Participated at Arlington High School in a Transition & Resource Fair for students in Dutchess County with IEPs and 504s to learn opportunities and steps involved with the process of planning for life after high school.
- Participated in a Transition & Resource Fair at Poughkeepsie High School for students in Dutchess County with IEPs and 504s to learn opportunities and steps involved with the process of planning for life after high school.

#### *Child Support Unit*

- Child support collections totaled \$24,360,958 as of 11/30/22.
- Filed 3,503 Family Court petitions as of 11/30/22.

- Established paternity for 94.32% of children in the IV-D caseload born out-of-wedlock as of 11/30/2022.
- Support establishment rate is 91.43% as of 11/30/2022.
- Began accepting credit payments in 2021; collected \$95,892.36 from credit/debit card transactions in 2022.

*Special Investigations – Fraud Prevention & Detection*

- \$11,375 was recovered in claims against estates.
- Amount recovered in lawsuits totaled \$58,661.19.
- The repeal of SSL § 106 impacted the district’s ability to recover TA real property and/or mortgage liens previously accepted and filed with their district County Clerk. Effective April 9, 2022, districts were not able to recover any TA real property and/or mortgage liens that were previously accepted and have not yet been satisfied.
- Personal incidentals and other bank accounts totaled \$47,233.
- Income executions accounted for \$14,438.
- There were 46 SSI repayment recoveries amounting to \$227,613.
- There was one SNAP disqualification totaling \$4,276 that was attained through a welfare fraud prosecution. All administrative disqualification hearings were suspended at the state level in February 2021 and have not yet resumed to date.
- The number of Confession of Judgments equaled 41, totaling \$136,964.
- Cost avoidance by Front End Detection System (FEDS) were as follows: Temporary Assistance \$2,426,160 and Day Care \$189,840. There was a total of 867 cases referred to the Special Investigation’s Unit in 2022 for a FEDS investigation.

*ThinkDIFFERENTLY*

- Transitioned ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative to the Department of Behavioral and Community Health under a redesign for an All-Abilities Program.



## Emergency Response

### 9-1-1 Communications Center

- The 9-1-1 Communication Center answered 192,704 individual phone calls for assistance and dispatched 113,374 individual incidents through the 9-1-1 Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD).
- Used NYS Interoperability Communications Grant dollars to purchase and install new dispatch radio base stages for Fire and EMS dispatch throughout existing radio system.
- Continued to partner with the Department of Behavioral & Community Health's HELPLINE/9-8-8 team to educate facilities seeking crisis services to call 9-8-8 instead of 9-1-1. This has resulted in a decreased number of mental health crisis-related calls to 9-1-1 and has helped ensure the individual received appropriate help and connection to services.
- In support of OCIS, helped develop fire department dispatch assignments and policy development for the integration of the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department into the Dutchess County Computer Aided Dispatch system (CAD)
- 9-1-1 Communications Center staff attended 2,548 hours of training and continuing education.

### Administration

- Completed the first ever Dutchess County High Speed Internet Study and Strategic Plan. This effort has identified immediate improvements that are anticipated to start in 2023. Additionally, it has identified areas and projects to address as funding and additional vendors are identified.
- Developed, reviewed, and awarded a contract with Motorola Solutions to purchase, install and operated a county-wide consolidated trunked radio system. This project will continue through 2025.
- Applied for and secured \$1,273,535 in grant funding through New York State to support 9-1-1 Operations and the radio project development.

### Fire and Rescue Division

- Dutchess County Emergency Response's specialized volunteer teams were active in 2022:
  - Deputy Fire Coordinators responded to 129 Mutual Aid incidents
  - Hazardous Materials Response Team responded to 12 incidents
  - Fire Investigation Division responded to 51 calls
- The Fire Training Division provided over 2,210 hours of training across the county.

- The Fire Investigation Division finalized specifications for new fire investigation vehicle, expected to be delivered in 2023.
- 4,240 individuals participated in training hosted by various agencies at the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response campus.

### Emergency Management-Public Health Division

#### Emergency Management

- Integrated Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Medical Services, and Medical Reserve Corps units into new Emergency Management – Public Health Unit.
- Created and implemented Domestic Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Plan.
- Provided first responders with Active Shooter and Hostile Event Response Training.
- Tested new Integrated Public Alert and Warning system, allowing county-wide alerts.
- Reviewed District Level School Safety Plans with Dutchess County Sheriff's Office.
- Continued oversight of Pandemic Response Plan COOP-COG and Regional Catastrophic Planning and long term stockpile and warehousing efforts at two offsite locations.
- Presented Local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Operations training to NYS Emergency Management certification attendees.
- Presented "Preparedness for People of All Abilities" at ThinkDIFFERENTLY Conference.
- Launched 'Ready Dutchess' Smartphone App
- Launched Access and Functional Needs Registry
- Promoted Preparedness Month activities in September including National Weather Service StormReady Community Announcement and Citizens Preparedness Training Relaunch

#### Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Logistics

- Continued state Department of Health contracts and worked with regional partners on several initiatives including but not limited to:
  - Participated in the planning for the Regional pediatric emergency management plan
  - Participated in Regional and local Hazardous Vulnerability Analysis (HVA).
  - Participated in the Regional Homecare Exercise
  - Participated in NYS Health Department Metro Area Regional Office and Cities Ready Initiative's quarterly meetings.
  - Maintained all Emergency Management Surveys pertaining to Public Health

- Ongoing COVID-19 response activities included:
  - Led the County’s nursing facility task force and worked with the facilities on their COVID response.
  - Infection control investigations and surveillance within skilled nursing facilities
  - Operated a residential facility mobile vaccine Point of Dispensing (POD) to support vaccination of residents and staff at facilities without medical capability.
  - Worked with other critical partners on COVID-19 regional response.
  - Established two offsite warehouse locations to stockpile critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and mobile assets.
  - Continued support of DBCH POD operations.
  - Directed functional operations of COVID test site at former JCPenney.
  - Assisted with drive-through COVID test kit distribution at several locations in Dutchess County
  - Distributed over 270,000 COVID test kits to community agencies.
  - Provided support to homeless providers in quarantining and isolating cases in the community, provided vaccine and testing capability in the shelters. Provided planning and logistics support and properly stored vaccine to county partners.
- Demobilized County POD locations and transferred inventoried supplies to new warehouse. Established warehousing operations for future emergencies.
- Worked with DBCH in response to Monkeypox outbreak to provide vaccine distribution PODs.
- Completed the Dutchess County DBCH After Action Report for COVID-19 Response.
- Updated and compiled numerous response plans, including:
  - The County’s Pandemic Plan
  - Monkeypox Response Plan
  - Mass Fatality Plan
  - Family Assistance Center Plan
  - DBCH Communications Plan
  - Ebola/Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (HVF) Plan
  - DBCH COOP Plan
- Partnered with Orange County to write a two-county regional Pandemic Plan.
- Continued the County’s CPR program.
- Supported all ThinkDIFFERENTLY events.
- Completed three Recovery and Resiliency Coalition of Dutchess County Meetings for the year.

### Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

The Medical Reserve Corps of Dutchess County's volunteers provided over 5,800 hours of volunteer service during 2022, including:

- Distributed thousands of COVID-19 test kits at drive-through mobile PODs around the county.
- Collected, sorted, inventoried, and packed 36 pallets of donated supplies to assist Ukraine.
- Supported all 12 Office for the Aging Senior Picnics, the Department of Community & Family Services' Foster Family Picnic, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY Fitness & Field Day, the DBCH Health Fair, as well as a number of community events and events sponsored by Dutchess County Parks, providing First Aid and distributing materials on health and preparedness.
- MRC's Animal Response Team (DCART) staffed the Dutchess County Fair, the Sheep & Wool Festival, DCSPCA Rabies Clinic, and Millerton Dog Day, training attendees in animal CPR and distributing pamphlets on animal preparedness and Pet First Aid. Team members were trained in handling traumatized cats and dogs. In addition, DCART presented several programs on Pet First Aid for the community.
- MRC's Mental Health Team trained to help respond to mental health emergencies in the community and assisted first responders at several incidents.
- In conjunction with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, presented the Stop the Bleed portion of the Active Shooter Training for a variety of community groups and county staff.
- Volunteers trained in areas such as radios, ICS, NIMS, CPR, Psychological First Aid, Cultural Humility, Narcan, Hazmat/PPE, Citizens Preparedness, Wilderness First Aid, Suicide Awareness, and other areas to be better prepared to assist in future emergencies.
- Participated in several drills to prepare for scenarios such as a mass casualty incident and nursing home evacuations.

### Emergency Medical Services

- Reorganized and hosted meetings of the Citizen's Advisory Committee for EMS.
- Deployed Mass Casualty Incident Trailers for standby at multiple large community gatherings and special events.
- Expanded the County's public access defibrillator (AED) program, which included a cardiac arrest resuscitation in the Town of Union Vale.
- Hosted in-person CPR Training for County employees and MRC Volunteers.

- Attended regular meetings of NY State Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems, the Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Council, Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee, Dutchess County Emergency Medical Services Council, Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Protocol Committee, Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital Trauma Committee, and Hudson Valley Regional Trauma Advisory Committee.

## **Finance** (including Real Property Tax)

- Maintained a bond rating of AA+ with a stable outlook by Standard & Poor's in March 2022.
- Paid off debt issued for capital projects in 2014 early, saving the county over \$1.5 million in future interest payments.
- Utilizing rolling twelve-month cash forecasting, actively managed the County's excess cash resulting in approximately \$2 million in interest income earned in 2022.
- Updated and improved upon a rolling twelve-month cash forecast to project the cash needs of the county through the pandemic and beyond.
- Began the implementation of online payment options for various County departments.
- Completed a county-wide review of existing leases in connection with the implementation of GASB 87.
- Worked with the Capital Plan Committee to develop the 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Plan, providing financial reports with valuable information to the users of the capital plan.
- Continued tracking costs of the COVID-19 pandemic for claiming purposes utilizing financial software's project accounting module.
- Continued using project accounting to track The American Rescue Plan Act local fiscal recovery funding received by the county.
- Implemented Bargaining Agreement pay rate changes including retroactive pay and changed to a bi-weekly benefit accrual method for awarding benefit time.
- Working with a multi-department team to implement a countywide electronic time and attendance recordkeeping system. The goals include increased efficiencies in all phases of the payroll process and standardization of time and attendance recordkeeping using biometric and other electronic data capture methods.

## Real Property Tax Division

- Completed all mandated programs under Article 5 of Real Property Tax Law, and completed all local programs and duties assigned by the County Charter including:
  - 43 investigative reports for Administrative Corrections of Errors,
  - Maintaining parcels lines for tax mapping and Parcel Access,
  - Administering the assessment software database for local assessors,
  - Providing state-mandated training to 27 Board of Assessment Review members and 13 other municipal and state employees,
  - Processing of over 8,800 property transfers, filed maps and other documents,
  - Maintenance of 45,109 escrow accounts, and
  - Calculation and verification of approximately 400 tax rates for County, Town, City, School, Village and special district purposes.
- Continued to work with the City of Poughkeepsie Finance Department and OCIS to help with the processing and printing of the city's tax rolls and bills.
- Coordinated with OCIS to process assessment and tax rolls as well as print tax bills for 60 school district segments, 20 towns, 2 cities, 8 villages and 1 fire district.
- Implemented changes to the assessment software, along with new procedures mandated by ongoing changes to the State's STAR exemption and STAR Credit Check programs.
- Provided administrative and systems support for 13 municipalities in Dutchess seeking to sustain annual reassessment; approximately 72,000 parcels.
- Coordinated and assisted in the state-mandated orientations of 6 new County Directors of Real Property Tax Services as well as two assessors.
- The Director continues serves as a member of the Real Property Tax Administration Committee. This committee seeks to resolve administrative and procedural issues that arise because of changes in the Real Property Tax Law.
- The Director also serves as the chairperson representing the state county director's association on the Real Property System Governance Group Committee, which helps guide development and implementation of the assessment software used by Dutchess County and most assessing units in New York.

## History

- Completed indexing of 15,000 pages of Ancient Documents for future imaging.
- Completed Phase 8 of the Ancient Documents Project, successfully digitizing 15,000 pages of historic court records to make accessible for public research.
- Secured Phase 9 imaging funding of an additional 20,000 pages of the Ancient Documents Collection through a State Archives LGRMIF Grant for \$16,940.
- Assisted the District Attorney's Office with historical appraisal of 339 cubic feet of material
- Completed a project with the Town of Amenia to conserve and digitize their early records, including the oldest surviving municipal records in the county.
- Assisted Dutchess Community College with securing a New York State Archives Grant to digitally image historic student records.
- Collaborated with Dutchess County Parks on installation of signage and an Arbor Day program at Wilcox Park, and donation of historical materials to the Town of Milan.
- Partnered with the East Fishkill Historical Society to bring back Dutchess County Civil War Days weekend event.
- Secured a roadside historical marker from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for Poughkeepsie and Beekman Industrial Albert Tower.
- Wrote letters of support for historical preservation grants for sites throughout Dutchess County.
- Led four online quarterly meetings of all Dutchess County history organizations for collaborative planning and networking.
- Collaborated with the County Clerk's Office to digitize 5,500 page of manuscript historical material through the archival imaging initiative to preserve invaluable documents and data located within local historical societies and municipal governments.
- Led network of local and county-level planning groups throughout Dutchess and expanded regional partnerships for Rev250 planning.
- Served on the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Management Advisory Committee.

- Served as an ex officio member of the Dutchess County Historical Society Board of Trustees
- Delivered 22 public programs at venues throughout Dutchess County
- Advised and assisted the Dutchess County Historical Society and local historical societies throughout the county on strategic planning, board development, and other institutional projects
- In partnership with the Dept of Planning and Development and the County Executive's Office, designed a special Historic Sites and Museums Infrastructure Grant program that awarded \$200,000 of support to history organizations across the county.
- Represented Dutchess County at the American Association for State and Local History's special Rev250 Conference and at the Association for Public Historians of New York State Conference.
- Answered research inquiries from the public at large and maintained county-wide communications network for county history community through department landing page and email list.
- Served as editor for the 2022 Issue of the *Dutchess County Historical Society Yearbook*
- Published local history columns in Dutchess County newspapers throughout 2022

## **Human Resources**

- Approved and tracked personnel actions including appointment, promotion, and salary updates, etc. for over 8,730 employees of the County and covered agencies.
- Reviewed 5,672 applications for appointment eligibility (3,696 exam applications, 1,976 recruitment applications)
- Administered 178 civil service exams as well as Redesigned Corrections Agility Test, conducted FPAT testing for Firefighters, Deputy Sheriff/Police Officer Agility Testing, and Correction Officer Agility Testing.
- Reviewed 452 positions from County and covered agencies for classification and conducted multiple appeals and desk audits.
- Completed 48 payroll audits and certifications for civil service compliance for covered agencies and certified Dutchess County payroll.



- Conducted position reviews for newly created Public Transit Unit. Created job specifications, developed custom “new hire applicant packets”, conducted orientation and onboarding for Public Transit employees. Successfully negotiated transition of 95 of 96 employees for benefits (vacation, sick leave, health insurance, etc.) with CSEA union.
- Settled the CSEA and DCSEA Labor Contract Agreements.
- Revised the Non-Union Benefit (NUB) Plan including drafting a policy and related forms for the new NUB Health and Wellness Program.
- Reviewed County titles for overtime eligibility and negotiated changes with unions.
- Conducted public hearing for over 20 Resolutions that were submitted to NYS Civil Service Commission to update the Rules for Dutchess County.
- Participated in NYSLER Project with Finance and Payroll for reporting compliance.
- Received 19 complaints of harassment/discrimination, 17 intake and full investigations were completed and/or referrals/mediated disputes were resolved involving seven departments. Two complaints were withdrawn.
- Dutchess County’s inaugural Diversity & Inclusion Committee celebrated 4 cultural awareness months, 1 live event and met quarterly to discuss strategic planning initiatives to increase diversity, inclusion, equity and belonging as well as cultural awareness subcommittee planning. The D&I committee sponsored the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Caregiver Conference and hosted a virtual lunch and learn for Alzheimer’s Awareness month.
- Dutchess County Diversity & Inclusion Committee met 5 times including 2 times with the County Executive’s Office. There were an additional 42 subcommittee meetings for cultural awareness events. The D&I Committee had several meetings with Dutchess Community College for 55a and recruitment initiatives.
- Coordinated with the Dutchess County Sheriff’s Correction Division recruitment team for targeted strategic planning of the recruitment of underrepresented groups for the 2022 Correction Officer Exam.
- Completed EEO Training for New Investigators presented by the EEOC Training Institute. Attended 4 Youth and Police Initiative graduations and shared County recruitments. Participated and conducted recruitment presentations alongside the Human Resources Seasonal Student Worker at the Summer Youth Employment Summit and Coach Watterson Football Camp.
- Completed 6 webinars for Americans with Disabilities Act and issues related to the workforce and 21 Diversity and Inclusion webinars that covered protected class statuses, cultural awareness events and psychological safety.

- The EEO & I Officer participated in over 20 Job Fairs including some for ThinkDIFFERENTLY/ Think Jobs events. Promoted the 55A Program and presented recruitment opportunities with 20 plus community outreach and recruitment organizations that serve under-represented groups regarding employment with Dutchess County Government.

### Risk Management Division

- Processed 47 Paid Family Leave claims and 67 Disability claims
- Conducted the interactive process to resolve 17 ADA Requests for reasonable accommodation.
- Received and processed 25 Workplace Violence claims and conducted 42 interviews in the investigation process and submitted written reports with findings and resolutions.
- 136 employees were tested for the annual hearing test (OSHA/PESH Hearing Conservation Program).
- Continued inventorying chemicals for the Online System for producing and organizing chemical Safety Data Sheets required by OSHA Hazardous Communication Regulations.
  - 5 Departments surveyed
  - Identified Gatekeeper for each department
  - 571 Chemicals entered in database
- Completed 48 miscellaneous safety inspections for County departments were performed including noise complaints, unsafe conditions, PESH follow-up, etc.
- Completed 161 Building inspections for County and Workers' Compensation Trust participants' facilities.
- Purchased and installed additional security/surveillance cameras to increase employee safety and limit county liability.
- Negotiated renewal coverage for Cyber Insurance in a hard market where many municipalities were not renewed.
- 220 new workers' compensation claims were opened and processed for the County and nine other Trust participants.
- Took over responsibility for the drug pool for FMCSA and FTA covered employees Assisted in CSEA negotiations by revising and finalizing the drug testing policy for all non-CDL employees.

## **Law** (County Attorney's Office)

- Prepared and submitted 175 resolutions on behalf of County Departments to the County Legislature for review and approval.
- Prepared and circulated approximately 1700 Agreements, Extensions and Amendment Agreements for County Departments through the Onbase system.
- Completed the Dutchess County Legislature Redistricting map for 2023.
- Drafted and submitted Resolution to the Dutchess County Legislature electing the “cents per gallon” rate for motor/diesel fuel tax which provided a reduction in the amount residents of the County paid per gallon of gas.
- Negotiated and finalized a Sales Tax Agreement with the City of Poughkeepsie and the City of Beacon.
- Drafted and finalized a template Agreement to be used for the new Agency Partnership Grant Program through the Department of Planning and Development for the Historical Sites and Museums Infrastructure Grant Program.
- Facilitated and implemented an intermunicipal Agreement for the Body Worn Camera program, to allow municipalities to participate in this shared service.
- Successfully navigated and implemented a highly technical and complex contract with Motorola for the new County-wide radio system, which was budgeted at almost \$24 million dollars.
- Assisted the Hudson 7 group, an intermunicipal council of counties, towns and villages dedicated to addressing watershed protection and management, in revising their Memorandum of Agreement, to now include Dutchess County as a voting member.
- Negotiated a contract with CSG Forte to enable all departments to accept credit card payments, and in coordination with the Finance Department and Comptroller's Office, revised standard County contract language to effectuate the change.
- Provided legal counsel to Human Resources, the Departments of Public Works and Finance regarding bringing the Dutchess County Public Transit employees into the County. Negotiated with the CSEA Union and modified its agreement with the County. Navigated complex fiscal issues.

- Negotiated and participated in the purchase of Camp Nooteeming and negotiated and finalized a Facility Management Agreement with Pathfinder for year-round operation of the property.
- Negotiated and finalized a Purchase and Sale Agreement, with attendant deed and lease assignments, to finalize the purchase of at 26 Oakley Street, Poughkeepsie.
- Drafted motion papers to obtain judgment on two years' worth of tax foreclosures, returning needed tax funds to the County after a two-year moratorium instituted during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Resolved two lawsuits (Correctional Medical Care Inc. and Dr. Frank Weber) against the County jail by alternative dispute resolution, foregoing litigation and saving the County funds and time.
- Oversaw outside counsel retained by New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR) to develop strategies to shift liability from the County to various contractors in order to save on County's deductible rates.
- Defeated summary judgment motion from Putnam National Bank against the County in its attempt to have the County's first lien removed from the premises at the Cooper Road Trailer Park. Currently in negotiations to recoup moneys expended by the County for work done to repair the water and sewer systems at the premises.
- Worked with the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) coordinator to update and modernize the County's prosecution of AOT petitions to ensure petitions are specifically tailored to each AOT patient and to continue working with the local hospital, Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital, in terms of developing coordinated responses for patients who are admitted to their care and its impact on the AOT program. The ultimate goal is to clarify responsibilities between the hospital and County and to alleviate some pressure on the County with the high case load of AOTs.

### *Training*

- Taught classes for the New York State Police Juvenile Officer's Association on three occasions to enable school resource officers and other police officers to obtain certification required by the Division of Criminal Justice Service.
- Taught Juvenile Law and Procedure to the DCSO Police Academy.
- Taught Penal Law/Juvenile Law in the evening to the students (ranging in age from 14-20) in the Law Enforcement Scholars program run by DCSO, where these students go through a full year "academy" to learn the ropes of law enforcement.

## **Planning and Development**

### *Housing*

- Released the 2022 [Dutchess County Housing Needs Assessment](#). This report analyzed current market conditions and affordability, projected three scenarios for housing needs in the next several years, and proposed strategies to meet these needs. The report was presented at the April Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce's Chamber Breakfast, Tri-Town Coalition's housing summit, and the Dutchess County Planning Board's April meeting.
- Worked with the County Executive's office on the establishment of a countywide Housing Trust Fund to provide a flexible and nimble funding source to aid the implementation of a variety of affordable housing efforts, as recommended in the 2022 Dutchess County Housing Needs Assessment. The fund targets rental housing for low- and moderate-income residents throughout the County and features three programs: the Housing Creation and Preservation (HCP) Program, the Infrastructure and Pre-Development Support (IPDS) Program and a First-Time Homeownership (FTH) Program. The County Legislature voted unanimously in mid-August to create the Dutchess County Housing Trust Fund..
- Released the inaugural funding application round for the Dutchess County Housing Trust Fund for projects related to the creation and preservation of rental housing. Received 8 applications totaling over \$22 million in requests compared to approximately \$9 million in available funding this first round.
- Participated in two meetings with the Dutchess County Human Rights Commission to discuss opportunities to work together to increase housing choice throughout the County.
- Began a process with the IDA to develop a Uniform Tax Exemption Policy (UTP), which could support the development of workforce housing throughout the County.
- Continued working with TheCaseMade to research community input on affordable housing. A Stakeholder listening session was held, along with numerous community voice sessions, to hear from residents throughout the County.
- Published the inaugural [For-Sale Housing Report](#), which analyzes the prior year's for-sale housing market in the context of historical patterns and trends.
- Published the [2021 Rental Housing Survey](#), which shows the vacancy rate in market-rate apartment complexes hit a historic low of 0.6%, while the rate of apartment construction was the second-highest in the past 15 years. The report includes a new section, the Overview of All Affordable Housing, which pulls together the data on affordable housing developments throughout the County and is paired with an explanation of different types of subsidies related to affordable housing – both past and present.

- Began 2022 rental housing survey data collection. Surveys were circulated to rental complexes of 20 or more units.

#### *Agriculture and Partnership for Manageable Growth*

- The Dutchess County Agricultural Advisory Committee, in concert with its Ag Ed Subcommittee, voted to add two youth members to the group – students from Stissing Mountain Junior/Senior High School/Pine Plains FFA and John Jay High School/ John Jay FFA. The students were officially appointed to the committee by the County Executive at the annual Ag Breakfast.
- Hosted the Annual 2022 Agricultural Forum at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds.
- In concert with the Dutchess County Agricultural Advisory Committee and agricultural partners, hosted four Farming in Dutchess Virtual Series sessions: [New and Beginning](#), [Urban Farmers](#), [Regenerative Farming and Soils Health](#), Purchase-of-Development Rights Programs and Conservation Easements, and Agricultural Education.
- In cooperation with Dutchess Land Conservancy and Scenic Hudson, participated in the closing of the Partnership for Manageable Growth (PMG) open space project, Seven Wells, a 170-acre woodland and ecologically sensitive ravine adjacent to the Dover Stone Church Preserve in the Town of Dover.
- Prepared and disseminated the 2022 PMG Grant Solicitation application and guidelines to potential applicants, including local officials and regional land trusts.
- Received 3 applications requesting \$772,009 to preserve 277 acres through 2022 PMG program. Coordinated farm tours for members of the Dutchess County Planning Board of three farms. The Planning Board completed its review and submitted recommendations for the County Executive’s consideration.

#### *Environmental*

- Reestablished Dutchess County Climate Smart Communities Task Force (DCCSCTF) membership and recruited new members.
- Selected an advisory committee that will assist in the preparation and coordination of the new County Natural Resource Inventory (NRI).
- The first NRI advisory committee meeting was held and the final contracts with the DEC and CCEDC were fully executed.

- Staff, in cooperation with CCEDC, HVRC, and NYSERDA, hosted 4 sessions of the Opportunities in Renewable Energy Training Series, which focused on helping local communities plan for and manage clean energy development now and into the future. Hosting this series will give Dutchess County points towards Clean Energy Communities grant funding. Session information and recordings, where applicable, can be found at <https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Clean-Energy-Communities.htm>
- In cooperation with CCEDC, NYSDEC HREP, Hudsonia, and DLC, hosted a Mapping Tools for Local Conservation Planning workshop.
- Executed intermunicipal MOU for the upcoming Climate Action Planning Institute (CAPI) project.
- Awarded a contract to Bergmann Associates to develop the Schatz Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Nomination Study for the former Schatz Federal Bearings Company site of Fairview Avenue in Poughkeepsie.

#### *Economic Development*

- Selected the Village of Millerton and the Town of Washington to participate in the 2022 Land Use and Economic Planning (LUEP) program. Working with Pace University, the Village of Millerton prioritized implementation actions of its new Comprehensive Plan, and the Town of Washington evaluated its land use approval process and propose improvements.

#### *Planning and Municipal Support*

- GIS staff began updating greenway maps using more recent census and geographic data.
- Completed 352 development reviews and referrals under General Municipal Law Sections 239-l and 239-m and the State Environmental Quality Review Act.
- Provided a total of 4,285 hours of community assistance to Dutchess County municipalities including:
  - Town of Amenia – Inclusionary Zoning
  - City of Beacon – Census data for redistricting efforts
  - City of Poughkeepsie – Zoning update technical advisory committee and Census data for redistricting efforts and implementation of the affordable housing bonus for 47 Cannon Street under the Poughkeepsie Innovation District
  - Town of Clinton – Guidance on NRI technical assistance grant
  - Town of Dover – Comprehensive Plan Update
  - Town of Fishkill – Guidance on multiple access roads for a residential subdivision
  - Town of LaGrange – Zoning data support for town assessor
  - Town of Milan – Zoning map data update

- Town of North East – Topographical mapping project, Housing Interviews, and Comprehensive Plan
  - Town of Pine Plains – Zoning map development
  - Town of Poughkeepsie – Early review of multiple local land use laws
  - Town of Red Hook – Guidance on town DWSP2
  - Town of Union Vale – Town Center zoning
  - Town of Wappinger – Guidance on a proposed zoning amendment, instruction on the referral process, and the Referral Identifier Tool
  - Town of Washington – Land Use Process evaluation with Pace University LULC
  - Village of Millbrook – Guidance on NRI technical assistance grant
  - Village of Millerton – Comprehensive Plan Implementation review with Pace University LULC
  - Village of Pawling – Zoning amendments
  - Village of Rhinebeck – Census data, comprehensive planning process, existing land use map and proposed zoning map
  - Village of Tivoli – Existing land use map
  - Village of Wappingers Falls – Comprehensive Plan update
- Published two (2) issues of the *Plan On It* eNewsletter on behalf of the Dutchess County Planning Federation:
    - [Shaping Our World from the Inside Out: Considering the Instincts of the Subconscious Mind in the Built Environment](#)
    - [Introducing the For-Sale Housing Report: A new way to track the housing market in Dutchess County](#)
- Hosted five (5) webinar training sessions on behalf of the Dutchess County Planning Federation, with an overall attendance of 364 people:
    - [Understanding the 2022 Dutchess County Housing Needs Assessment](#) (62 attendees) presented by Peter Lombardi and Eric Ameigh from czb (consultation of the development of the updated housing needs assessment)
    - [Hudsonia's Local Habitat Maps Go Virtual](#) (70 attendees) presented by Gretchen Stevens of Hudsonia and Don Meltz of Marist College.
    - [Zoning Board of Appeals Overview](#) (78 attendees), presented by staff from the New York State Department of State's Division of Local Government Services.
    - [Affordable, Accessible Housing – Strategies for Putting Housing Within Reach \(and Keeping it There\)](#) (68 Attendees), presented by national housing expert Shane Phillips.
    - [Housing Development and Financing 101](#) (68 Attendees) presented by Doug Olcott, Senior Vice President and Director of Lending Hudson Valley Office with the Community Preservation Corporation.



- Worked with the U.S. Census Bureau's Count Question Resolution (CQR) and Post-Census Group Quarters Review (PCGQR) process to correct errors in the 2020 Census. The Bureau approved the majority of the County's proposed PCGQR corrections, adding to the group quarters counts on the Bard, Vassar, and Marist campuses in the Towns of Red Hook and Poughkeepsie. The 2020 Census count itself will not be changed, but those corrections will be reflected in future population estimates. The CQR case, in which the County is proposing to correct a geolocation error at the Fishkill Correctional Facility, is still under review. If approved, about 660 people would shift from the Town of Fishkill to the City of Beacon.
- Conducted a municipal fee schedule survey.
- Responded to 41 requests for census information.

#### *Interdepartmental*

- Provided staff support to the Independent Reapportionment Commission (IRC), including attending 20 IRC meetings, preparing multiple maps and data analyses, and providing general meeting coordination.
- Assisted in the development of the 2023-2027 Capital Program process, working with departments to update information regarding ongoing capital projects.
- Developed a process to incorporate historic records into the Referral and Major Projects application to eliminate hundreds of boxes from the County records facility.
- Gave a presentation to the Department of Behavioral and Community Health (DBCH) on GIS capabilities within public health and opportunities for data collaboration between Planning and DBCH.

#### *Community Investment*

- Launched Round 1 of the 2022 *Learn, Play, Create: Supporting Our Kids* Grant Program and received 53 applications, requesting more than \$877,000 in funding; awarded more than \$690,000 in *Learn, Play, Create* grant funds to 41 youth-serving non-profit organizations.
- Launched the Municipal Investment Grant (MIG) Program with an estimated \$4 million in available funding; received and reviewed 43 applications requesting more than \$5.4 million in MIG funds and awarded over \$4.6 million in MIG grants for 38 projects focused on general shared services, fire and rescue efforts and community development
- Completed a comprehensive review of 10 applications received under the 2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Municipal grant program, resulting in 9 eligible projects, totaling more than \$1.1 million.

- Completed 40 programs and projects funded under the Community Investment section, which addressed critical social, economic, and health outcomes, as well as local municipal shared services, community development and infrastructure efforts throughout the county.
- Conducted 5 Pre-Construction Conference with the Town of Pawling and Pawling Public Library for the library bathroom installation project, Town of East Fishkill for Senior Center sidewalks, Town of Clinton for Friends Park improvements, and City of Beacon for Fishkill Avenue/Hannah Lane sewer main replacement and South Avenue sidewalks.
- Launched the Historical Sites & Museums Infrastructure Grant Program with an estimated \$200,000 in available funding, reviewed and awarded \$205,000 in funding for 16 projects.
- Reviewed 57 *Learn, Play, Create: Supporting Our Kids* Round 2 applications, requesting more than \$945,000 compared to an estimated availability of \$346,000; awarded more than \$490,000 in funding to 31 youth-serving non-profit organizations.
- Provided administrative support to DBCH's Division of Veterans Services with its inaugural Veterans Micro Grant Program, which received 17 applications, totaling \$242,279.
- Prepared and submitted the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to HUD that was approved, which allocated \$1,125,000 to tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA), \$403,000 to support services, \$1,472,000 to youth transitional housing, and \$478,489 for administration.
- Participated in a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) monitoring of the Continuum of Care (CoC) permanent supportive housing program administered by sub-recipient, Mental Health America of Dutchess County.
- Completed the NACCED and ICF's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Basics online course which provided an overview and refresher of CDBG basics, a review of eligible national objectives and eligible activities, federal regulatory requirements, and CDBG COVID (CV).
- Launched the 2023 CDBG Municipal grant program which included hosting a CDBG Municipal Public Hearing and Workshop for which there were 10 applications submitted requesting nearly \$1.2 million in funding.

#### *HOME*

- In partnership with the Department of Community and Family Services, awarded the Rental Supplement Administrator contract to Hudson River Housing, utilizing 3 funding sources, HOME-ARP (\$1.5 million), CDBG-CV (\$200,000), and NYS Rent Supplement funds (\$3.6 million), more than \$5 million over 5 years, to assist homeless people and those facing imminent risk of homelessness with tenant-based rental assistance up to 120% of the fair market rent and support services to promote long-term housing stability.

- Signed agreement with Kearney Realty & Development for \$700,000 in HOME funding (awards in 2021 and 2022 rounds) to support 10 affordable housing units within an 80-unit project in Pawling.
- HOME 2023 application round was released on November 1 and an applicant workshop was held on November 10<sup>th</sup>; received five applications on December 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Received and reviewed annual compliance documentation for active HOME projects.

#### *Continuum of Care (CoC)*

- Conducted the annual Point in Time (PIT) unsheltered homeless count; 20 people reported living in a place not meant for human habitation.
- Completed the review and revision of a new vulnerability index to assess the vulnerability of homeless people seeking permanent supportive housing through the Coordinated Entry waiting list.
- Completed the rank and review of CoC renewal and new applications and submitted the 2022 annual CoC application to HUD, requesting nearly \$1.5 million in funding to provide transitional and permanent supportive housing for homeless people, with the administrative support of CARES of NY, which submitted the application on behalf of the Dutchess County CoC.
- Presented on the Dutchess County CoC, CoC transitional and permanent supportive housing programs, project-based housing waiting list opportunities, and other subsidized housing options available to Dutchess County at DCFS' Navigating the System workshop.
- Supported 21 housing units with CoC rental assistance.

#### *Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)*

- Completed [Poughkeepsie 9.44.55](#): a detailed study of how to redesign the Route 9 Interchange and Route 44/55 Arterials to make them safer, more reliable, and better integrated with nearby neighborhoods.
- Adopted a [new project selection framework](#) that will be used evaluate and prioritize transportation projects proposed for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the five-year capital program of federally funded projects in Dutchess County. The framework supports the goals of the new long-range transportation plan – [Moving Dutchess Forward](#). Related to this, the MPO also began a major update of the TIP for FFY 2023-2027.

- Adopted a new [Unified Planning Work Program \(UPWP\)](#); the MPO’s annual work plan that identifies the federally funded planning activities it will undertake for the upcoming State Fiscal Year. For the new program, the DCTC will start several new studies to include a vulnerability (resiliency) assessment of the transportation system and local pedestrian planning studies in Dover, Poughkeepsie, and Rhinebeck. The DCTC will also work on a new capital program (Transportation Improvement Program-TIP) to allocate federal highway and transit funding for state, county, and local projects throughout the county.
- Completed preliminary planning work with Dutchess County Departments of Public Works (DPW), as well as Bard College for a redesign of Annandale Rd (CR 103) through the Bard campus.
- Created GIS maps and used an online app to conduct fieldwork for an Arlington Business Improvement District (BID) Parking Study, in coordination with the Town of Poughkeepsie and Arlington BID.
- Began the RFP process for on-call transportation planning support. The selected consultants will assist with the MPO’s new intersection and corridor management programs.
- Assisted County Legislator Barrington Atkins, Scenic Hudson, and City of Poughkeepsie staff to plan and lead a Mental Health Awareness bike ride in the City of Poughkeepsie.
- Assisted County DPW to review and select a consultant to redesign the Main Street/Grand Avenue intersection in Arlington—a recommendation of the Arlington Pedestrian Plan.
- Assisted County DPW to develop a scope of work for Universal Accessibility improvements in the Village of Millerton, based on recommendations in the Millerton Pedestrian Plan.
- Released the [Bike Dutchess app](#), developed in coordination with the Office of Central and Information Services (OCIS).
- Released series of four ‘Watch Out For Me’ videos, produced by Forge Media and posted on County’s social media platforms and the [Watch Out For Me!](#) webpage.
- Attended the Walk Bike NY conference and presented on the County’s [Watch Out For Me!](#) education program, with DBCH staff.
- Adopted a new five-year Capital Program (TIP-Transportation Improvement Program) that allocates \$191 million in federal transportation funding in Dutchess County (\$115 million for highway projects and \$76 million for transit); highlights include five bridge replacements (East Fishkill, City of Poughkeepsie, Red Hook), the reconstruction of Teller Ave in Beacon, and 33 replacement buses for Dutchess County Public Transit.

- Approved the allocation of almost \$10.9 million in federal transit funding for Dutchess County Public Transit. Funds stem from authorizations in ARPA, CRRSAA, and the federal 2021 and 2022 budgets.
- Completed substantial work on a pedestrian plan for the Dover Plains hamlet in the Town of Dover. With the help of a volunteer task force of local stakeholders, developed a preliminary menu of recommendations that were presented to the public for feedback at the Town's Dover Day celebration.
- Selected ICF Inc. as a consultant for the upcoming Vulnerability Assessment of the county's transportation system. The assessment will deepen understanding of the effects of climate change on transportation and serve as an online resource to decision makers and the public, providing information about potential climate hazards and setting priorities to build resiliency. The assessment will also support the County's Natural Resources Inventory (NRI).
- Held site visit with the Village of Pawling Mayor and Dutchess County Sheriff's Office to discuss pedestrian safety improvements, building on the recommendations of the Village of Pawling Pedestrian Plan; issues related to pedestrian safety concerns at several intersections, most centering on limited visibility, poor signage/lane markings, and speeding. Staff documented issues and recommended updating/removing non-compliant or unnecessary signs, extending the median along Colman Blvd., adding curb extensions, and reworking some of the crosswalks.
- Developed a GIS-based parking inventory application for the Arlington BID, in coordination with the BID and Town of Poughkeepsie.
- Organized and led a crosswalk education activity at Poughkeepsie's National Night Out event as part of the County's Complete Streets Committee and 'Watch Out For Me' campaign.
- Presented on Complete Streets at the County's CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan) forum, outlining ways Complete Streets contributes to community well-being.
- In concert with NYSDOT, issued a call for local bridge projects under the [BRIDGE NY program](#), which provides federal funding for non-state bridges on county and local roads. Over \$4.3 million will be made available in Dutchess County.
- Developed a new logo and tagline – *Better ways from here to there* – to express the DCTC's continued focus on serving the transportation planning needs of Dutchess County, coinciding with its 40th anniversary.

- Recognized by the [Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations](#) as its honorable mention winner for Outstanding Overall Achievement for a large-area MPO for [Moving Dutchess Forward](#), the innovative 25-year transportation plan for Dutchess County, developed in partnership with FHI Studio and OCIS.
- Completed a 45-day public comment period for a draft [Public Participation Plan](#), the DCTC's new outreach strategy to better connect with the public and encourage its involvement in the transportation planning process, which offers a menu of virtual, in-person, and hybrid tools to engage people with the DCTC's work. The Plan also outlines ways the DCTC will engage populations that have historically been excluded from the planning process.
- Completed a [Complete Streets assessment of Route 9 \(Mill/Montgomery St\)](#) in the Village of Rhinebeck, which identified how to improve walking and bicycling access on two key sections of Route 9 through the village: Livingston Street to Montgomery Street to the north, and South Street to Rockefeller Lane to the south. The assessment focuses on how to make these gateways safer for walking and bicycling, and includes conceptual maps that identify recommended improvements. The assessment recommends ways to improve walking and bicycling, calming traffic, and creating clear gateways into the village?
- Completed an [analysis of high-end speeding in Dutchess County](#) to understand where vehicle speeds were more than 10 mph over the speed limit and analyze speed-related crashes and fatal crashes from 2017-2021. The report includes maps of high-end speeding road segments and speed-related crashes in each municipality and the county.
- Initiated two on-call consultant planning tasks to complete a Sidewalk Feasibility Study of Route 113 (Spackenkill Road) in the Town of Poughkeepsie, and support conceptual design work for two Route 22 intersections as part of the Dover Plains Pedestrian Plan.
- Presented the [Dover Plains Pedestrian Plan](#) draft recommendations to the Dover Town Board.
- Presented the [Watch Out For Me](#) educational campaign at the NYS Highway Safety Symposium in Albany, NY.
- Oversaw the scheduling and placement of over 211 traffic counts, 24 automated pedestrian/bicycle counts, and 10 intersection turning movement counts, while coordinating an additional 60 volunteer observed pedestrian/bicycle counts.

### *Geographic Information Systems, Mapping, and Data*

- Fulfilled 141 custom mapping and data requests/projects for municipalities, engineering firms, local non-profits, and County staff.
- Supported DBCH with GIS project focused on mapping COVID positive cases throughout County for each month of the pandemic.
- Provided staff support to the Independent Reapportionment Commission (IRC), including delivering a presentation on County GIS capabilities and resources, attending 30 IRC meetings, preparing multiple maps and data analyses, and providing general meeting coordination.
- Completed coordination of a new interactive map viewer application posted to the County website for the IRC draft and final plans.
- Delivered final 2022 district boundaries data and accompanying materials to Board of Elections, completing the 2022 redistricting process.
- Completed two road closure detour maps for the Department of Public Works.
- Digitized and georeferenced historic maps for County Historian.
- Prepared a pavement condition map series covering the entire County for the MPO.
- Updated annual blood lead level maps for DBCH.
- Updated Town of Wappinger zoning map.
- Submitted a Count Question Resolution request to correct an issue with the reported location of inmates at the Fishkill Correctional Facility for the 2020 Census.
- Completed projects assisting DPW with mapping analyses for CR-19 and CR-94.
- Implemented updates to County's Parks & Trails online application with the addition of 2 new parks to the County inventory.
- Planned and produced floor plan designs for DBCH's Dutchess County Health Fair.
- Provided updates to the County zoning geodatabase, incorporating changes to zoning codes in the towns of Beekman, Milan, and Pine Plains, as well as the Village of Red Hook in preparation for launch of new zoning mapping application in 2023.

- Prepared scope for proposed multi-year interdepartmental water infrastructure mapping project.
- Provided data management assistance to Hudson Access Project.
- Presented to the Poughkeepsie Public Library District's annual staff meeting on trends identified in the 2020 Census and 2021 American Community Survey.
- Analyzed and summarized 2021 American Community Survey data.
- Completed early voting location maps for County Executive's Office.
- Began data preparation for 2023 Agricultural District Review.
- Provided DBCH with updated Legionella Case mapping.

#### *Solid Waste Management*

- Hosted three household hazardous waste and electronics recycling events; collected 25,700 pounds of chemicals (a 41% decrease from 2021), 71,224 pounds of electronic waste (a 4% decrease from 2021), and 3,440 pounds of fluorescent bulbs (a 13% increase from 2021) from 927 residents.
- Hosted a small quantity generator of hazardous waste event for businesses, schools and government; 7 entities took part in this event.
- 11,094 pounds of pharmaceuticals, including 2,495 pounds from Dutchess County, were safely incinerated at the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Facility, a free community service provided to police departments from medication drop-box and collection events.
- Licensed 7 new solid waste haulers and relicensed 8 existing haulers.
- Performed an annual audit of municipal transfer stations keep up-to-date information for residents.
- Published monthly newsletters on the Division's website; newsletters inform residents on best recycling practices as well as pertinent sustainability information.
- Continued promoting backyard composting selling Earth Machine compost bins at-cost to residents; sold 10 bins.
- Recycling educator attended Millbrook Farmers Market to host an informational table on backyard composting.



- Promoted and organized the collection of used eyeglasses in collaboration with the Lagrange Lion's Club in recognition of America Recycles Day, November 15<sup>th</sup>; over 120 glasses were collected for the Recycle for Sight campaign.
- Held a public comment session for the drafted Local Solid Waste Management Plan (LSWMP); submitted the LSWMP to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) on June 10, 2022; revised and resubmitted the LSWMP to NYSDEC with recommended revisions for a second review on December 22, 2022.
- Initiated and participated in the first Regional Recycling Educator Working Group, solid waste professionals from Dutchess, Ulster, Orange, and Westchester counties meeting bimonthly to collaborate on best methods and strategies of outreach and education pertaining to materials management.
- Promoted the paint stewardship program, PaintCare, adopted by New York State; mailed informational fliers to all Dutchess County municipalities.
- Hosted virtual recycling presentation for County residents in observance of Earth Day.
- Conducted 751 recycling compliance inspections and investigated 5 non-recycling complaints; all complaints were resolved.

#### *STOP-DWI*

- The program remains a viable component of Dutchess County Government. There continues to be lingering challenges from the Covid-19 pandemic response. Contributing factors including a lapse and continued reductions in traffic enforcement have severely impacted the immediate funding source and sustainability of the program which had relied strictly on fine revenues generated from impaired driving arrests/conviction within the County. Recently grant funding has been made available through the NYS STOP-DWI Foundation to support coordinated County enforcement efforts. With continued partnerships and support from law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office impaired driving arrests/convictions and the fine revenue that drives the program will begin to rebound.
- Awarded a total of \$47,000 for participation in the NYS STOP DWI Foundation's Impaired Driving High Visibility Community Engagement Enforcement Grant Project. Due to program effectiveness, the County received two additional reallocations (totaling \$19,000) in addition to the original \$28,00 award. Funding supported 11 Law enforcement agencies countywide and directly resulted in 626.5 combined hours of coordinated enforcement activities including, two (2) coordinated checkpoints and dedicated patrols) that resulted in 23 additional impaired driving arrests.

- Through the Prescription Drug Take Back Program, more than 2,458 lbs. of unused, unwanted medications were collected/destroyed county-wide from the eleven (11) permanent drop boxes and multiple community events. The total includes 283.2 lbs. collected at Office for the Aging Senior Picnics. Since the drop boxes were established in 2013 more than 25,603 lbs. of unused/unwanted medications have been collected and properly destroyed.
- Assisted with the coordinated participation in the National DEA “Operation Take Back” Days (April & October) with the Sheriff’s Office supporting 3 collection sites (Dover, Town of Poughkeepsie, and LaGrange).

#### *TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD*

- The School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement Program is now active in seven districts; an eighth is expected to go live in January 2023. Three additional districts are in discussion about joining the program; one has opted out. Through December 2022, 8,509 violations had been issued.
- Administered a “Injury & Crash Prevention Program for Emerging Traffic Safety Issues” grant program through the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee (\$63,073) with an emphasis on Unsafe driving behaviors, Safe Older Driver Mobility, School Bus, Motorcycle, and Helmet Safety.
- Conducted 9 Bicycle Safety Rodeos (308 participants, 116 helmets replaced).
- Conducted the large-scale 2nd Annual Bike Safety Day at the Fishkill Plains Elementary School (384 participants/142 helmets). Additionally, helmets were distributed and education provided through safety partners including East Fishkill, Town of Fishkill, Village of Wappingers Falls, and the Millerton police departments, and the Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS).
- Multimedia public awareness campaign about school bus safety campaign was presented in local municipalities and school districts as they joined.
- The 19th annual School Bus Driver of The Year was selected/presented at an Operation Safe Stop press event.
- Distributed more than 400 School Bus Safety activity books and loaned related safety videos to School District transportation personnel in the fall of 2021. Multiple press releases were also distributed with a back-to-School driver responsibility theme and reminding motorists of the penalties for passing a stopped school bus.

- Awarded \$15,000 grant to provide child safety seats and fitting materials to eleven (11) fitting stations covered under the TSB grant. Collectively they inspected/correctly installed 465 seats and replaced 48 additional child safety seats throughout the grant cycle.
- The grant project includes \$4,050 to support a Low-Income Seat Distribution Program coordinated with Dutchess County Community and Family Services. With support of the TSB child safety seats were purchased/provided to identified high risk families and qualified caregivers. In total 38 seats were distributed, and parents/caregivers educated. Each recipient was qualified for a child safety seat after completing instructional/education sessions on proper Child Safety Seat installation and use by certified Child Safety Seat Technicians.
- A National SAFE-Kids CPS Technician certification course conducted in Marchand hosted by the Roosevelt Fire District.
- TSB and members of the Dutchess County CPS Coalition, in ongoing efforts to educate the public/caregivers on proper use of child safety seats coordinated/supported twenty (20) community seat check events throughout the grant cycle; 138 seats were inspected and 25 replaced. since coalition was established in 2001, 29,846 child safety seats have been inspected/installed and parents /caregivers educated, with 8,038 child safety seats being replaced.

## **Probation and Community Corrections**

### *Juvenile Services*

- Completed the two-year Dennis M. Mondoro *Probation and Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Project* with RFK National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice, a grant-funded initiative to review and enhance juvenile justice services in the county and serve as a model for other jurisdictions. The project resulted in a series of recommendations to enhance the juvenile justice system in the county.
- Worked with Dr. Keith Cruise, Director of Clinical Training at Fordham University, to select a trauma screening instrument for juveniles and follow-up programming for treatment.
- Continued the evidence-based equine therapy program at Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue and once again expanded the population eligible for these services.
- Expanded the use of coaches to work with probation officers to enhance their skills in using the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument, an evidence-based tool to identify needs and strengths.

- Maintained restorative justice and evidence-based programs for youth including empathy workshops, the Decision Points curriculum, and Interactive Journaling.
- Probation Officers participated in the Youth and Police Initiative (YPI), a new program coordinated by the Department of Community and Family Services. YPI is designed to reduce negative contacts between law enforcement and youth.

#### *Pretrial Services*

- 1,306 pretrial screens were conducted and 767 releases to supervision occurred, a slight increase over 2021.
- Working with the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council, continued to analyze the impact of bail reform on Pretrial Services and the criminal justice system while exploring ways to develop alternative avenues to provide programming and services.
- New York requires pretrial service agencies to receive certification to operate their programs. The department's application for certification from the Unified Court System of the State of New York (OCA) was approved for an additional three years—the maximum amount permitted for a pretrial service agency.
- With the assistance of the District Attorney's Office, funding was secured to purchase a program to enhance communication for pretrial services and the Drug Courts. Known as Reconnect, the program will facilitate communication and assist with data collection.

#### *Adult and Administrative Services*

- Collected over \$200,000 in restitution for distribution to victims of crime.
- Continued participation with the Opioid Task Force to promote availability of Medication Assisted Treatment to individuals on probation and in the Dutchess County Jail.
- Enhanced participation in the RESTART program through screening, referrals, and aftercare. Strengthened linkages to community-based services for formerly incarcerated individuals. RESTART is an evidence-based jail transition program that links to services in the community.
- Continued participation in the state GIVE (Gun Involved Violence Elimination) initiative, a multi-agency collaboration to reduce gun violence in the community.
- All staff completed at least 21 mandated hours of training and most received extensive training in various specialized topics, such as substance use disorders and domestic violence.

- Professional staff completed training with Douglas Marlowe, J.D. Ph.D., Chief of Science, Law & Policy, National Association of Drug Court Professionals on Behavior Modification in Community Corrections. As part of the training, Dr. Marlowe trained a smaller group of probation staff as future trainers and coaches.
- Assisted in establishing a Veterans Court in the county, which is now operational in the Dutchess County Court presided over by the Honorable Jessica Segal and the City of Beacon Court presided over by the Honorable Gregory J. Johnston.
- Collaborated in the planning for a Centralized Arraignment Court in the county.
- Expanded availability of cognitive behavioral groups at the Office of Probation, Community Transitions Center, the Women’s Center, and other agencies.
- Maintained a successful partnership with Project M.O.R.E.’s Community Employment Program which focuses on employment readiness and mentoring to assist people on probation find and maintain employment. It uses the highly effective evidence-based Ready, Set, Work curriculum.
- Project M.O.R.E., under contract to Dutchess County through the Office of Probation, was awarded continued funding for the next five years from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for four programs—the Women’s Reporting Center, the Probation Violation Residential Center, the Community Employment Program and RESTART.
- Director Mary Ellen Still continued to chair the Training and Qualifications Committee and Area III Committee for the Council of Probation Administrators and was appointed as a Commissioner on the New York State Probation Commission, which considers all matters related to probation in the state and advises and consults with the state Director.
- Supported the activities of the Criminal Justice Council with staff serving on its committees and as chairs of the Juvenile Justice, Special Populations and Justice-Involved Women’s Committees. Director Mary Ellen Still served as chair of the Criminal Justice Council.

## **Public Defender’s Office**

- Competently and professionally represented 6,329 cases, including 3,900 cases in the criminal and appellate courts and 2,429 cases in the family courts of Dutchess and Ulster counties.
- Provided legal representation at 3,619 arraignments in all Dutchess County criminal courts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Of those, 3,042 were released on their own recognizance or other forms of immediate release. Of the remainder, an additional 45 posted bail before being booked-in at the Dutchess County Jail.

- Continued to expand legal services provided to individuals charged with crimes through funding received from the five-year, approximately \$14 million contract from New York State's Hurrell-Harring statewide expansion fund.
- Created a uniform procedure for downloading, reviewing, and managing digital discovery materials.
- Received a \$750,000 state grant to be used over three years in the Family Court Unit, which will be used to hire two additional family law attorneys to solely handle Article 10 proceedings. This will result in specialized legal counsel for parents who will benefit from tailored representation. Additionally, this grant will provide much-needed caseload relief to the other attorneys in the Family Court Unit.
- Opened a satellite office in the Village of Fishkill to provide better access to quality legal representation for clients.
- The Criminal Unit conducted one felony and one misdemeanor jury trial.
- Appeals Unit achieved reversals of parole denial in two cases and successfully appealed three matters to the Appellate Division.
- Office members participated in numerous training programs, including the DWI Scholars Program, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), and the New York State Defenders Association (NYSDA) continued legal education seminars.
- Management employees participated in numerous community programs, including Justice-Involved Women's Committee, Re-Entry Task Force Committee, Mental Health Community Challenges Committee, Domestic Violence Offender Project Committee, Alternatives to Incarceration Committee, Criminal Justice Committee, and the Universal Response to Domestic Violence Committee.
- The Family Court Unit continues to use remote, virtual representation using Microsoft Teams in conjunction with in-person proceedings.
- The paperless initiative continues to be expanded for broader use by additional attorney staff.
- Continued conflict swap program with Ulster County, allowing each Public Defender's Office to handle criminal cases in which the partner county has a legal conflict that prevents representation. The family court portion of the conflict swap program has been terminated.

- Hosted two legal interns who used student practice orders under the supervision of staff attorneys to represent clients at arraignment. Hosted 30 college interns who assisted with office intake/eligibility determinations. Hosted two master's degree level student interns who assisted the social work staff in providing client services.
- A total of 20 individuals were incarcerated on civil commitment orders (failure to pay child support) for 191 jail bed days, which was a reduction of 14 jail bed days from the previous year.
- Overall jail admissions in 2022 were 855, resulting in a minimal increase from the previous year's total admissions of 851.

## **Public Works**

As the County emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic in 2022, the Department of Public Works continued to assist other County agencies in responding to the needs of the community. The Department provided its core services, including transportation system maintenance, recreation opportunities, and keeping County-operated buildings safe for both county employees and the public.

### Airport Division:

- Received \$1.4M New York State Department of Transportation grant to design and build a new salt shed and equipment shed adjacent to the Airport Operations Fire Fighting building. Construction will be completed in 2023.
- Received a \$355,000 Federal Aviation Authority Airport Capital Improvement Plan grant for hi-definition, multi-camera security system to monitor all runways and gate entrances. This project will commence in 2023.
- Continued work on updating the Airport Master Plan, anticipated to be complete in 2023.
- In October, signed a 10-year lease with Tradewind Aviation, seamlessly filling the vacancy left by the former airport operator, AAG, at two of the largest hangars at the Airport.
- Exceeded 65,000 take-offs and landings for the year, an increase of 8%, despite historically high fuel prices.
- Completed the design, permitting process and schematic design for the construction of two corporate hangars that will attract additional private development.

#### Auto Service Center/Fleet Services Division:

- Provided safe, operational, and fully maintained vehicles and equipment for all Dutchess County departments and staff, Hyde Park Police, Hyde Park Recreation, Dutchess Community College, and Dutchess County BOCES.
- In cooperation with OCIS, added wireless internet to the highway shop and auto service center.
- Continued to train and audit processes in the use of the County's computerized fleet maintenance system to increase operational efficiency and find cost savings as well as providing better service to departments and staff.
- Conducted daily safety walk-throughs for the auto center and highway shops to ensure a safe work environment.
- Conducted weekly toolbox talks with auto center and highway garage staff to discuss safety, fleet needs, and industry enhancements. These internal talks/trainings have improved staff safety, increased knowledge, and decreased incidents needing Risk Management investigation.
- Worked with County departments and staff to evaluate fleet needs, order vehicles that are more efficient and improve work environments.
- Worked with Risk Management to evaluate, restructure and improve the County's auto body repair process.

#### Buildings Division:

- Completed 2,750 work orders, including the addition of the Parks Division.
- Completed design of roof replacement projects at the Millbrook Highway Outpost, Pine Plains Highway Outpost, and OCIS building. Project work scheduled for 2023.
- Completed design for geothermal vault valve relocation project at 9-1-1 Center. Project is scheduled to go out to bid in 2023.
- Assisted with COVID-19 test kit distribution and continued support of vaccination/test sites.
- Completed demobilization of County-operated vaccination sites in Poughkeepsie and Dover.
- Completed design and began construction of upper walkway concrete and steel repair project at Dutchess Stadium. Project is anticipated to be complete in 2023.



- Completed an expansion of the Highway truck garage fire alarm system providing improved fire protection for essential DPW equipment.
- Completed a carpet replacement project in the Surrogate Court located at 10 Market Street, Poughkeepsie.
- Completed a motor fuel dispensing system modernization at the DPW facility located at 626 Dutchess Turnpike.
- Completed fire alarm modernization project at 10 Market St. (County Courthouse,) 236 Main St. (District Attorney) and 228 Main Street (Commissioner of Jurors)
- Completed demolition of an unsafe structure and parking lot restoration project in Millerton adjacent to the Harlem Valley Rail Trail.
- Completed extensive improvements and repairs to numerous buildings at Camp Nooteeing in Pleasant Valley to comply with ADA requirements.
- Improved access and site security at Camp Nooteeing by adding access gates and cameras at the camp entrance on Scout Road.
- Began a feasibility study for a dining hall building at Camp Nooteeing.
- Completed a roof replacement on a portion of the existing Dutchess County Jail facility in Poughkeepsie.
- Completed an assessment of roofs at newly acquired County sites at Camp Nooteeing, 26 Oakley Street, Poughkeepsie, and Hudson Valley Regional Airport. Added roofing projects to the County's roof master plan.
- Moved Board of Elections facility to the newly renovated space, located at 4280 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park.
- Moved Veterans Services Division to the newly renovated location at 1355 Route 44, Pleasant Valley.
- Opened Public Defender satellite office in Fishkill and moved in office staff.
- Installed security camera system at Dutchess County Medical Examiner's office.
- Upgraded the security camera system at Auto Service Center in Hyde Park.
- Completed a renovation project at the Public Transit Facility to improve the thermal envelope.
- Completed demolition of the former YMCA building in the City of Poughkeepsie.

- Completed schematic design for the Youth Opportunity Union (YOU) and began revision process to reduce the overall construction cost.
- Completed construction drawing for a temporary court room at 50 Market St. to reduce operations interruptions during an upcoming HVAC improvement project in the County Courthouse and County Office Building.
- Worked with DBCH staff to further develop a conceptual master plan for the mental health campus at 230 North Road.
- Hired consultants and began design of ADA Access/Entrance Improvements at 22 and 60 Market Street facilities.
- Hired consultants and began design of ADA Restroom Improvement at 60 Market Street.
- Hired consultants and began design of the Emergency Shelter Facility at 26 Oakley Street.

Engineering Division:

- Completed construction of the replacement of bridge R-8, Mill Road, Town of Rhinebeck.
- Began the construction for the replacement of bridge F-3, Washington Ave, Town of Fishkill.
- Completed design for bridge replacement projects:
  - Bridge C-29 and large retaining wall, Hollow Road (CR-14), Town of Clinton
  - Bridge S-24, Hunns Lake Road (CR-65), Town of Stanford
- Continued design of the following bridge projects:
  - S-39 and S-40, Salt Point Turnpike (CR-17), Town of Stanford
  - L-29, East Noxon Road (CR-21), Town of Lagrange
  - D-34, Ridge Road, Town of Dover
  - D-66, Old Route 22 (CR-6), Town of Dover
  - W-30, Verbank Road, Town of Washington
  - N-5, Rudd Pond Road (CR-62), Town of North East
- Completed design plans for Dutchess County Veterans Memorial Cemetery, which will be located in the Village of Wappingers Falls.
- Completed design plans for Intersection and Drainage Improvements along Gardener Hollow Road (CR-32), Town of Beekman.
- Began the construction of phase I of the Northside Line in the Town and City of Poughkeepsie. Advanced design of Phase II, slated for construction to begin in 2024.

- Completed the acquisition of 28 properties and 21 license agreements.
- Completed 202 miles of road striping, parking lot striping and special marking applications.
- Researched and provided survey mapping at 63 locations to various engineers and surveyors.
- Provided 98 Right of Way (ROW) determinations to the County's Highway Construction and Maintenance Division.
- Performed mandated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS-4) inspection and program administration.
- Completed the improvement project along Old Hopewell Road (CR-28) in the Town of Wappinger. This project was supported by federal funding.
- Completed intersection improvement project at CR-94 and CR-28 in the Town of Wappinger. This project was supported by federal funding.
- Advanced design of the intersection improvement project at Main Street (CR-114) and Grand Avenue in the Town of Poughkeepsie.
- Continued maintenance and development of Roadway Inventor Management System (RIMS).
- Completed improvement project along Beekman Road (CR-9) in the Town of Wappinger. This project was supported by federal funding.
- Completed the intersection improvement project at Noxon Road, Smith Road, and Maloney Road in the Town of LaGrange.
- Fallkill Dam Improvements were re-bid in early 2022. State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) modified permit requirements after bidding, but prior to award, forcing cancellation of award and rejection of all bids. Anticipate re-bidding and construction during 2023.
- Completed the replacement of Culvert U-7 on Camby Road in the Town of Union Vale.
- Completed a safety improvement project along Slate Quarry Road (CR-19) at Third Avenue, Town of Rhinebeck.
- Completed construction of improvements at Quiet Cove Riverfront Park, Town of Poughkeepsie.

- Continued monitoring and reporting at the closed Balefill landfill at Hudson Valley Regional Airport in accordance with DEC requirements.
- Completed design survey for pedestrian/bicycle safety improvement project along Annandale Road (CR-103) from Route 9G to Kelly Road, Town of Red Hook. This project will be completed with Bard College.
- Completed the design of a culvert replacement project on CR-83, Amenia Pine Plains Rd. (CR-83), in the Town of North East. Construction will begin in 2023.
- Completed design for sidewalk improvements along Innis Avenue (CR-75), between E. Arnold Rd. and N. Jackman Drive in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Bidding and construction are planned for 2023.
- Began design of a sidewalk improvement project along South and North Maple Ave. (CR-62), in the Village of Millerton.

#### Highway Construction & Maintenance Division:

- Worked with the Engineering Division on bridge and highway improvement projects, addressing bridge inspection flags and rights-of-way.
- Continued shared services intermunicipal agreements with six municipalities to provide snow and ice control on 61.67 miles of County highway.
- Provided tree removal services along County highways and at County Parks, including Rail Trails, and the Hudson Valley Regional Airport as needed.
- Milled and paved one mile of the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (HVRT) in Amenia.
- Excavated and prepared the site for improvements at the 9-1-1 Depot Hill Tower.
- Paved the parking lot in the Village of Millerton for public access to the HVRT.
- Paved Citation Drive at Hudson Valley Regional Airport.
- Completed road repairs, built ADA parking areas, and placed trail markers at Camp Nootteeming.
- Completed construction of an Item-4 pad to store Emergency Response storage containers at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport.
- Paved an access route around the site of the future Veterans Cemetery in Wappingers Falls.

- Began construction of four pickle ball courts at Quiet Cove Park.
- Dispatched eight Highway employees to Buffalo for three days to assist Erie County with snow removal during the state of emergency.
- Completed over 16.85 miles of road surface improvements on the following County Roads:
  - Beekman Rd. (CR-9)
  - Sylvan Lake Rd. (CR-10)
  - Pleasant Ridge Rd. (CR-21)
  - Cream Street (CR-39)
  - Academy Hill Rd. (CR-51)
  - McGee Hill Rd. (CR-64)
  - North Quaker Hill Rd. (CR-68)
  - Smithfield Valley Rd. (CR-83)

Parks Division:

Bowdoin Park

- Processed 486 reservations for pavilions, Maple Knoll Lode, Ellesdie Chapel, and athletic fields through Parks Reservation System, a 34% increase over 2021.
- Hosted several public events including:
  - Sap Happy Maple Weekend with Office for the Aging, Farmers and Chefs Restaurant, and Poughkeepsie Public Library District
  - Boots by the Bandshell Country Music Event & Fireworks
  - Winter Prelude at Ellesdie Chapel, piping holiday music from the belfry
- Collaborated with county departments on the following outreach programs:
  - OFA Senior Drive thru Pancake Breakfast in March
  - OFA Mother’s Day Bingo
  - OFA Picnic at Bowdoin in June
  - Year-end picnic with Dutchess County Youth Advisory Council
  - Think Differently Fitness and Field Day
- Hosted various community events, including the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Walk
- 45<sup>th</sup> season of Kevin McCurdy’s Haunted Mansion welcomed 2,400 attendees
- 19<sup>th</sup> season of the Holiday Spirit Festival welcomed 2,933 attendees
- Replaced water line to Pavilion 3.

- Removed unsafe pour-in-place surfacing around main playground and replaced with new border and wood fiber fill.
- Removed unsafe playground at Pavilion 4 and “Saturn” playground in main playground area.
- Installed new drainage around splashpad.
- Completed re-siding of Community Center/Parks office building.
- Began construction of new Archery Range.
- Hosted numerous national, regional, and local Cross Country meets with nearly 5,000 athletes, coaches and spectators in attendance.
- Parks Naturalists hosted numerous sessions of its popular programming for children and adults, serving 3,178 homeschooleders, campers, and residents.
- Certified seven summer interns and Naturalist staff members in Wilderness First Aid/CPR.

#### Wilcox Park

- Processed 290 reservations for pavilions, fields, and the Forest Acres Campground, an 11% increase over 2021.
- Hosted Arbor Day Celebration Historical Panel Ribbon Cutting and Nature Hike in April
- Hosted Vet2Vet Fireside Chat Camping Weekend and Veterans Picnic in June
- Completed construction of Accessible Camping Platform
- Hosted Capital Discs Professional Disc Golf Association Tournament in August
- Completed installation of new salt shed and removal of the old shed
- Removed unsafe playground on the beachfront

#### Quiet Cove Riverfront Park

- Processed 54 reservations for the Boat House and open space areas.
- Introduced Kayak slip rentals
- Hosted ceremony to celebrate new entrance improvements, including an historical walk and weekend historical exhibit in partnership with Hudson River State Hospital Nurses Association and Marist Archives Special Collections Department.

- In coordination with Engineering, completed several park entrance improvements including an access loop and additional parking, incorporating ADA improvements. Bike lane created as well as adding new features such as a sculpture garden, benches, bus shelter and new entrance signage.
- Installed new steps at boathouse kitchen entrance.

#### Rail Trails

- Permitted nine community events along the William R. Steinhaus Dutchess Rail Trail (DRT) and one event along the Harlem Valley Rail Trail (HVRT)
- Partnered with various community organizations to host volunteer clean-up days along DRT and HVRT.
- Completed trail maintenance and installed reprinted trail maps.
- Completed restoration of three miles of runner's edge on DRT
- Secured Locust Landscaping as a sub-contractor to assist with trail maintenance on the Maybrook Line – part of the Empire State Trail.

#### Upper Landing Park

- Hosted Movies Under the Walkway in partnership with Millman Harris Romano Foundation on three summer evenings.
- Completed renovation of overgrown flower and plant beds along Fallkill Creek and Hudson River within the park.
- Hosted Walkway Over the Hudson Starry Starry Night Benefit in October

#### Lake Walton Preserve

- Completed weekly site visits to maintain property and dam areas.
- Developed wayfinding and signage concepts
- Continued to pursue permitting from US Fish & Wildlife Services, including design modifications required by the agency. Completion of design changes and permitting is anticipated to be complete in 2023.

## Dutchess Stadium

- Roof repairs on club house roof completed, tree clearing left field area in preparation of construction.
- In addition to successful baseball season (hosting 66 home games), Dutchess Stadium hosted several special events including:
  - Arlington and Beacon School Districts' graduation ceremonies
  - James Warriors Car Show
  - Hops on the Hudson
  - Nitro Circus
  - I Love the '90s Concert

## Administration/Marketing and Outreach/Other

- Dutchess County Parks Facebook Page followers increased to over 3,100, a 55% increase over 2021.
- Continued design work on new Dutchess County Parks website.
- Developed new Trail Map brochures for Wilcox and Bowdoin Park
- Developed new Scout and School Program brochures.
- Tabled at the following events:
  - County Government on the Road at the Red Hook Community Center
  - Think Differently Fitness and Field Day
  - Dutchess County Health Fair
  - Dutchess County Fair
- Finalizing new facility and program reservation system that will be rolled out in 2023.
- Hosted Scout Troop 275 for flower planting at Dutchess County War Memorial in the Town of Poughkeepsie.
- Attended Recreation and Park Association Conference
- Parks staff received Narcan Training

## Public Transit Division:

- Successfully transitioned 96 contracted transit staff to Department of Public Works employees.



- Logged 680,015 passenger trips, representing a 22% increase over 2021.
- Dial-A-Ride service saw growth of 11% over 2021 with over 13,500 rides.
- Began architectural and design phase for \$4,428,000 in Section 5307 funds from the Mid-Hudson Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transit facility repairs, such as flood mitigation, additional parking areas, a new storage garage, renovation of mechanics restrooms and locker rooms, renovations of ADA restrooms and conference room.
- Used \$3,091,513 of Federal CARES Act funding from the FTA to help support Public Transit operating expenses and the installation of plexiglass safety barriers for drivers.
- Received a \$1,020,058 grant from the 2021 and 2022 New York State Public Transportation Modernization and Enhancement Program (MEP) for additional bus purchases.
- Ordered two new 30-foot heavy duty and four 40-foot heavy duty transit vehicles with \$2,814,585 in Federal 5339 funding.
- Ordered a new road service vehicle for the maintenance department with \$48,828 in Federal 5339 funding.
- Began a \$630,000 federally funded system-wide bus shelter replacement plan to install 11 new bus shelters in the City of Poughkeepsie and other locations throughout the county.
- Completed a federally funded \$235,000 transit facility rehabilitation project, which includes:
  - The rehabilitation of the exterior windows and siding of the transit facility at 14 Commerce Street
  - Power washing of the front of the building
  - Renovation of the drivers' room to include new flooring, cabinetry, plumbing, ceiling tiles, air ducts and electrical outlets
- Continued contract partnership with Bard College, Hudson River Housing, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie City School District, and City of Beacon to offer transit services at no charge to their passengers.
- Completed a contractual partnership with Gateway Advertising for vehicle advertising sales.
- Assistant Director of Public Transit recognized by the New York Public Transit Association, receiving the Joe Boardman Dedication to Public Transit Award.
- Continued public outreach sessions at the Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall and Poughkeepsie Transit Hub.

- Supplied six buses and 12 drivers to Ulster County in February to provide transportation and act as warming stations following an ice storm that caused service disruptions and power outages at Ulster Transit.
- Participated in the Town of Poughkeepsie Holiday Caravan.

## **Division of Water Resources/Water and Wastewater Authority**

- Successfully managed and operated 31 water and sewer systems, providing services to more 6,300 customer connections.
- Completed projects to improve the Village of Tivoli's water system including replacing water tank, water mains prone to break, and water mains along Broadway. Commenced improvement to the wells and wellhouses.
- Commenced design for replacement of Tivoli Sewer WWTP
- Completed rehabilitation of Greenfields Sewer System
- Completed connection of Pinebrook Water System to Hyde Park distribution system
- Completed assignment of Global Foundries water supply agreement to Hudson Valley Research Park Waterworks Corporation/Onsemi.
- Notified of \$4 million dollar grant from EFC to connect Greenfields Water system to Hyde Park distribution system.